



# MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
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October 2005

## INSIDE OCTOBER'S ISSUE

### CORRECTION

In the September issue of the *MNN*, the Spotlight page featured Dave Lewis. In the article a statement was made that a proclamation was issued by Chief Ellis and Judge Moore. It is the desire of Principal Chief's Office to duly note that no official proclamation or endorsement was ever given by Chief Ellis concerning Dave Lewis.

### VOTING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Constitutional Questions Issue will not be voted on during the Nov. 5 election. There will be a special election on Feb. 18, 2006 to vote on the Constitutional Questions. The Constitutional Questions will be published in next month's issue. For more information, contact the Office of the Principal Chief at (918) 732-7604.

### FEATURES - SECTION B



Section B of *The Muscogee Nation News* contains the following pages: life-styles, spotlight, religion, elderly living, community, obits, and sports. Featured in this month's sports section is Muscogee (Creek) citizen O.J. King.

### SCENE - SECTION C



Section C of *The Muscogee Nation News* contains the following pages: entertainment, artists, gaming, and food. Featured in this month's artist's section is Muscogee (Creek) citizen Robert Satterfield.

### THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

A Veteran's Day ceremony will be held on Nov. 10 at the Mound Building beginning at 11 a.m. This year's veterans will be honored and recognized in a pass-in-review procession. Veterans are requested to assemble at the east side of the Mound at 8:30 a.m. Contact Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739 for rosters and information.

## Tribe assists with Hurricane Katrina relief effort



Chief of Staff Mike Flud, right, examines boxes before they are loaded onto the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Transit Authority bus and transported to victims of Hurricane Katrina. National Council Representatives, Rita Williams and George Tiger, background, were also present to lend a hand with Tribe's assistance for the relief effort.

photo by Gerald Wofford

By JOSH SLANE  
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — In a powerful display of unity, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has led the county of Okmulgee in helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Dan Ivan, County Emergency Management Coordinator, approached Chief Ellis to see if the Muscogee Nation would be willing to assist the County's efforts in helping the cities of Bogalooosa and Slidell, both in Louisiana. Chief Ellis replied the that Nation would do everything in its power to help.

In less then a week, National Council Representative Rita Williams had drafted legislation and

took it before the National Council. Speedy cooperation between the Council and the Chief resulted in the adoption of legislation appropriating \$30,000 to the Okmulgee County YMCA for purposes of disaster relief. In addition, it donated \$10,000 for transportation.

However, even after donating its \$40,000, the Muscogee Nation was not done with it's out reach. Ben Chaney of the transit authority, loaned the County a bus to haul the first aid supplies, which included neosporin, hydrogen peroxide, saline solution, and many other items. The bus left on Sept. 10.

Still the Creek Nation was not finished. Linda Rayon of the Food Distribution Program allowed the

County to use one of Food Distribution's semitrucks to transport the food and other donated goods. Even now Phil Booker, Risk Management Coordinator, is working with the County to provide laborers for the affected areas.

National Council Representative, George Tiger, had this to say about the efforts being made. "I've always maintained that Indian people are a compassionate and giving people. This is an example of that. National disasters don't see color lines, it affects everyone. That's the attitude of not only the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and other tribal governments here in Oklahoma, but other places as well."

## Muscogee culture to play a major role in the American Indian Cultural Center Ground Blessing Ceremony

OKLAHOMA CITY — Tribal members and ceremonial leaders will be conducting a ground blessing of the American Indian Cultural Center and hosting a social stompdance on Nov. 1 following the NCAI general session. The stompdance is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m., with the ground blessing ceremony to follow at 5 p.m.

In 1994, the Oklahoma State Legislature authorized the creation of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority to design, construct and operate a Native American Cultural Center and Museum. Several years were required to select a location, design team and plan for the Center. The Center will be located on about 300

acres of land to be donated by the City of Oklahoma City at the intersections of I-35 and I-40 in downtown Oklahoma City with a target opening date of 2006.

A master plan and conceptual design has been completed by an exceptional group of architects, designers and museum and exhibit specialists. This plan includes many aspects that reflect Native American culture and traditions of water, wind, fire and earth, the circle, sun cycles and places of gathering for social and sports events.

For more information, contact the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority at: P.O. Box 26980, Oklahoma City, OK 73126, or at [www.NACEA.com](http://www.NACEA.com).



Pictured above is an architectual drawing of the American Indian Cultural Center.

photo submitted

## Annual Cultural Day continues to grow with over 1,200 participants registering for this year's event

OKMULGEE — Despite the cold and windy weather, over 1,200 participants registered for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care's annual Cultural Day held on Oct. 6.

The event is part of the Office of Child Care's Enrichment Program for students ranging from headstart to high school seniors.

The annual Cultural Enrichment Program began in the fall of 2002. The event provides an opportunity to educate the Muscogee youth, or anyone who attends, about the beauty and uniqueness of the Muscogee heritage.

This year's participants were treated to Creek hymn singing, ceremonial dances, stickball games, pottery, loom weaving, flute making, and Creek foods, such as cvtv hakv and safke.

"The foods, crafts, and activities are things that have been passed down by our elders to keep our cultural traditions alive," said Newman Frank, Office of Child Care Business Manager.

The following is a list of schools and child care centers that attended this year's cultural day: Justice, Porter, Porter Consolidated, Ryal, Henryetta, Okmulgee Primary, Wilson, Dewar, Preston, Sapulpa, Checotah, Okemah Alternative Education, Wilson Head Start, and Yardeka Head Start.

Many speakers and volunteers participated in this year's Cultural Day. The following is a list of those who contributed to the success of this year's event: Northeast Senior Methodist Church, Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground, Shirley Almerigi, Jacquelen Hill, Linda Buck, Leona Brooks, Connie Buck, Sue Ann Davis, Diann Billie, Elizabeth Butler, Sallie Bucktrot, Clara Jacobs, Joann Powell, Aline Lamb, Florene Brown, David Yargee, Noel Grayson, Priscilla Kahbeah, Betsy Taryole, Aggie Beaver, Lousie Burgess, Sylvanna Caldwell, Tim Harley, Walter Taylor, Jr., Dugan McIntosh, Ella Mack, Billy Wilson, Janice Tiger, Vonda Switch, LeeAnn Jack, Kelly Bell, Mary Smith, and Christine Wolfe.



Members of the Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground lead the stompdance during the Cultural Day.

photo by Mallory Bible







Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the Sept. 6, 2005, Emergency Session.

September 6, Emergency session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee District; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvptce District; and **Cherrah Ridge Quiett**, Tulsa District; Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvptce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council: representative **Pickering** was out of seat at the time council convened in committee-as-a-whole and returned to seat during committee-as-a-whole;

- approved (20-0-0) NCA 05-206, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in McIntosh County, Oklahoma;

September 6, Special session

Absent were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee was excused; **Wind**, Okfuskee was excused; **Ade**, Tukvptce; and **Quiett**, Tulsa;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvptce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council: representatives **Bible**, Tulsa; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Pickering**, McIntosh were excused;

- approved (13-1-1) TR 05-134, authorizing the Principal Chief to authorize the Muscogee (Creek) Nation controller to transfer donated disaster relief funds to the Okmulgee County Emergency

Management;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (13-1-1) NCA 05-207, ap-

abstain were: **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Willits**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

In order of business the Council: representative **Chalakee**, **Gillespie**, **Golden**, **S. Johnson**, **McIntosh**; and **Willits** arrived;

- approved (21-1-0) TR 05-126, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an intergovernmental agreement for the procurement of goods and services between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Oklahoma Correctional Industries;

voting no were: **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

- approved as amended (22-0-0) NCA 05-182, approving the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2006 and providing for appropriations;

- approved as amended (17-5-0) NCA 05-200, authorizing an appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority for its fiscal year 2006 operational budget;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Willits**, Tulsa;



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL  
Session Palen-Tutcenohakaken (13)  
2004 - 2005  
Front row, from left to right: Sue Johnson, Sandra Parish, David Nichols, Rita Williams, Billy Chalakee, Richard Berryhill, Thomas Yahola, Sandra Golden, Lena Wind, Nancy Watson, Roger Barnett, Duke Harjo, and George Tiger, Back row, from left to right: Barbara Gillespie, Keeper Johnson, Jesse Kelley, Robert Hufft, Larry Bible, Cherrah Quiett, Ron Cleghorn, Lola Fields, Robert Jones, Shirlene Ade, Thomas McIntosh, Anthony Notaro, and Tom Pickering

propriating funds for the emergency management disaster relief crew and the Okmulgee County Emergency Management;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner; representative **Jones**, Okmulgee was excused;

- approved (7-1-6) NCA 05-208, authorizing an emergency special appropriation to financially assist a creek family with funeral expenses;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvptce;

September 13, Emergency session

Absent were: **McIntosh**, McIntosh was excused; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee was excused; **Golden**, Okfuskee was excused; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee was excused; **Ade**, Tukvptce was excused; **Fields**, Tukvptce was excused; **Bible**, Tulsa was excused; **Willits**, Tulsa was excused; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner was excused;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvptce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

September 13, Special session

Absent were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvptce; **Fields**, Tukvptce; **Bible**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvptce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

- approved (16-0-0) NCA 05-222, authorizing a special appropriation for Miss, Senior Miss and Chaperone to attend the Ocmulgee Celebration in Macon, Georgia, Sept. 16-18, 2005.

Second

continued from page 2

be remembered as among the evidences of the extraordinary ferocity of his race.

The comrades of Menawa followed him into the battle, and fought at his side with desperate valor, until nearly all were slain, and he fell wounded by seven balls. The whole fight was of the most desperate character. The waters of the Tallapoosa river were red with blood (Catahvtce-sometimes spelled Chattahooche; my interpretation). The ferocity with which the Indians fought may be attributed in part to their custom of not suffering themselves to be taken as prisoners, while their position cut them off from retreat, and still more perhaps to the fact that ground of the Horseshoe was a consecrated spot, where they considered themselves protected by friendly spirits, and were

nerved to desperation by a faith like that which excites the frantic valor of the Mahometan. Of nine hundred warriors led into that sanguinary fight by Menawa, only seventy survived, and one only, who fled at the first discharge of a cannon, escaped unwounded.

When the storm of the battle subsided, Menawa remained on the field, lying in a heap of the slain, devoid of consciousness. Recovering his senses, he found himself weltering in blood, with his gun firmly grasped in his hand. The battle had ceased, or swept by, but straggling shots announced that work of death was not over. Raising himself slowly to a sitting posture, he perceived a soldier passing near him, whom, with a deliberate aim, he shot, but at the same moment received a sever wound from a bullet, which, entering his cheek near the ear, and carrying away several of his teeth, passed out on the opposite side of the face. Again he fell among the dead, retaining, how-

ever, so much of life as to feel the victors treading upon his body as they passed over it, supposing him to be slain. When night came he felt revived, and the love of life grew strong in him. He crawled cautiously to the bank of the river, and descending to its margin, found a canoe, which he entered, and, by shaking it from side to side, loosed it from the shore. The canoe floated down the river until it reached the neighborhood of a swamp at Elkahatchee (El-kv-hvtce or river of death), where the Indian women and children had been secreted previous to the battle. Some of these wretched beings, who were anxiously looking out for intelligence from the scene of action, espied the canoe, and upon going to it, discovered the mangled chief lying nearly insensible in its bottom.

REMINDER  
General Election Run-Off  
November 5, 2005  
Polls open from 7 a.m. to 7p.m.

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HOW THEY VOTED

SEPT. 6, 2005 SPECIAL SESSION

NCA 05-208: A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an emergency special appropriation to financially assist a Creek family with funeral expenses. ADOPTED 7 Yes, 1 No, 6 Abstentions



**ANTHONY NOTARO**  
**McINTOSH DISTRICT, SEAT B:**  
**Voted Yes**  
"First off, I will never apologize for supporting something that will help a Creek citizen whenever it's possible. The (deceased) young man did not have a citizenship card but he, in fact, was a Creek citizen. My colleagues and I are all in accordance with the fact that we hold a position that allows us to help, and when that opportunity is afforded to us, we will do it every time. The man's mother met with Chief Ellis and a discussion took place regarding the unfortunate situation. It was something that I believed was in our power to help this family with financial assistance. Sometimes the I's are not dotted and the T's are not crossed but that still shouldn't stop us from giving much needed assistance."



**BARBARA GILLESPIE**  
**WAGONER DISTRICT, SEAT B:**  
**Voted Abstain**  
"I abstained the vote to even have the meeting because it was not following procedure. I then abstained on all three legislations in the meeting including NCA 05-208, because I didn't want to vote if the meeting wasn't legitimate. It wasn't legitimate under the laws of National Council Policy and Procedure Section 115, Paragraph K. I felt very strongly that it was not a proper meeting because there was no 72 hour notice or written request. Had I voted on this particular legislation I would've voted no. We have over 58,000 citizens that we expect to follow the law, the law states that they have to be citizens. If we allow one, we would have to allow all, in that case we might as well throw our policies and procedures out the window."



**DAVID NICHOLS**  
**OKMULGEE DISTRICT, SEAT E:**  
**Voted Yes**  
"To me it was a question of compassion, and I believe we should have compassion for our people. The young man's mother was Creek, we know that he was Creek. There were financial problems present that were prohibiting this man from receiving a proper burial. I understand the fact that we have procedures, but I didn't believe that letting the citizenship process get in the way of the tribe being able to give aid and compassion to this family was the right thing to do. That is why I voted yes."



**BILLY CHALAKEE**  
**OKMULGEE DISTRICT, SEAT C:**  
**Voted Abstain**  
"First of all, the young man was seventeen years old and he only had his C.D.I.B. card not his citizenship card. I don't know if it was his fault or not, but there was a lack of communication somewhere. Somewhere along the way he didn't get his citizenship card. Social services has their guidelines and they have rules that we need to follow. I understand funeral expenses and I didn't vote either way because I was not sure who the blame belonged to. I was not totally sure that he may not have been told that he had to have that card to receive certain benefits, so in this case I just abstained."

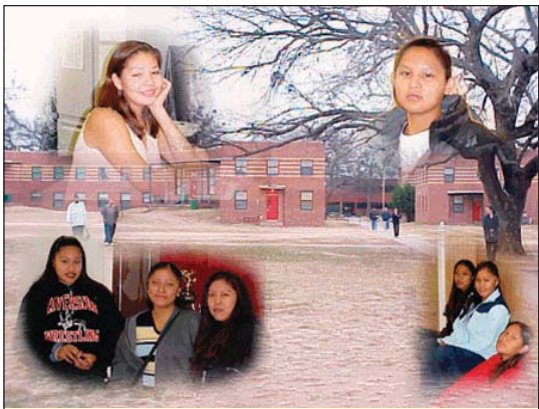


# MNBEUPDATE

## MNBE Awarded \$4.2 Million Contract

ANADARKO — Michael Nalley, Director of Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise (MNBE), has announced the signing of a \$4.2 Million Contract with the Anadarko Area Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to build a new Kitchen and Dining Hall at Riverside Indian School. Construction of the new facility is anticipated to start in November 2006. Construction of the facilities is scheduled to be completed within 18 months.

Established in 1871, Riverside Indian School is a federally operated off-reservation boarding school located at Anadarko, Oklahoma. It has an enrollment of over 650 students in grades 4 through 12, and is accredited by the state of Oklahoma and the North Central Accreditation Association.



Riverside Indian School was established in 1871.

## MNBE Director to Serve on Panel At Tribal Government Management and Accounting Symposium In Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS — Michael Nalley, MNBE Director, was a panelist at the Tribal Government Management and Accounting Symposium at the Monte Carlo Resort & Casino in Las Vegas on Oct. 3-5. The symposium was sponsored by John M. Arledge & Associates, P.C., Certified Public Accountants.

Nalley participated on Monday, Oct. 3 in a bonus session involving a roundtable discussion on tribal economic development. The other panelists included: Neal McCaleb, lead economic development consultant with the Chickasaw Nation (and formerly head of the BIA), Michael Harwell, Executive Director of the Otoe Missouria Tribe, and JD Colbert, Executive Vice-President of Bank2, owned by the Chickasaw Nation.

MNBE recently received the very first Oklahoma Minority Business Development 8(a) Association Business of the Year Award for 2005. It was presented at the Oklahoma State-wide Native American Business Development Center 2005 Oklahoma Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week Awards Dinner held on Aug. 18 at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa. The event honors Native Americans and minorities who have beaten significant odds to become successful entrepreneurs.

MNBE is an enterprise owned by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation located in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. MNBE is certified as a Tribal owned SBA 8(a), HUBZone and DBE certified company. MNBE started with one employee in 2003 and today have 110 employees nation wide working in Construction Services, Fire & Security and



BJ Waggnor, MNBE Fire & Security.

Professional Staffing. Revenues for Fiscal Year 2005 will exceed \$18 Million.

MNBE has contracts with the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army Command (San Antonio, TX) U.S. Army (Ft. Hood, TX) and BWXT Pantex (Department of Energy Contractor).

## Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise creates Highway Services Division

OKMULGEE — MNBE has announced the creation of a Highway Services Division to focus on Oklahoma Department of Transportation Highway and Bridge Remediation projects. MNBE has formed a partnership, under a new company structure, with Joe and company Rio Blanco, LLC. Joe Loftis, Manager of the Highway Services Division has over 28 years experience in the Highway and Bridge Remediation Industry.

This partnership will become the civil construction arm of MNBE as to highway, runway, dams, bridges and other heavy civil work to be performed by MNBE. Highway remediation includes paving repairs and rehabilitation, bridge repairs or replacements and runway repairs and repaving projects.

Highway Services will focus on work for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, other regional Department of Transportations, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, military bases and civil projects within the eastern Oklahoma region. The group will also perform subcontract work for other prime contractors.

“MNBE is anticipating receiving its first subcontract for work to be performed around Ada, Oklahoma,” said Nalley. “We anticipate hiring tribal members from around the Hughes County area for this project. We will be able to provide more information to our tribal members once we have received official notification of the subcontract award.”

There will be an internal training program for highway workers to be employed at MNBE. Individuals interested in working for the Highway Services Division can contact Joe Loftis at (918) 752-3150.



## Altus Air Force Base renews Muscogee Nation Business Enterprises SABER Contract

ALTUS — Altus Air Force Base has renewed the third year of the Simplified Acquisition for Base Engineering Requirements Contract (SABER) for Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise.



“The SABER contract involves various types of work ranging from building renovations to runway repairs,” according to Michael Nalley, MNBE Director. “I want to commend Steve Bighorse, Construction Services Division Manager and the MNBE staff at Altus AFB, Glen Brown, Rob Walenta, Frankie Ross and Robert Dein for the contract renewal.”

MNBE was awarded the SABER Contract in September 2003. There are two years remaining on the original 66 month contract.

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Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program hosts Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. camps

OKMULGEE — The Diabetes Program held their 2005 camps in July and August. A total of 146 campers between the ages 10-15 attended the four camps this summer. These camps provided 5 hours of related diabetes prevention topics and 15 hours of physical activity to American Indian youth, ages 10 – 15.

The PRIDE Camps were held in the four clinic communities within the 8 counties that make up the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN). These communities were Eufaula, Okemah, Okmulgee and Sapulpa.

The need for diabetes prevention awareness among MCN youth became apparent to the Diabetes Program staff during the 2003 MCN 4-day Wellness Camp (First Camp Cvfeknetv) in which 50% of the youth campers had 3 to 4 diabetes risk factors that included being overweight or having acanthosis nigracans.

Day-camps lasting 3 days in four targeted communities were selected as the camp mode vs. one larger camp in an off-site setting that requires overnight stays.

Day camps increase convenience by bringing the camps closer to the communities where the youth reside and they are more acceptable to parents, youth and staff in that they require less adjustment of other daily life obligations. They also offer a broader distribution of diabetes prevention activities and awareness.

A wide and varied range of organizations and businesses volunteered their services for resources in each community. These included schools and churches, bowling alleys, roller rinks, golf courses, swimming pools and parks. By developing partnerships with these agencies, many of the facilities were free of charge and available for future camp use.

ous tribal and community agencies to carry campers to different sites within the community.

The Tribal Diabetes Program developed a Diabetes Prevention curriculum made up of 5 parts.

Part 1: “What is Diabetes/Pre Diabetes?”

Part 2: “Prevent Diabetes through Good Nutrition”

and fitness games as well as on field trips that included bowling, hiking, golfing, swimming and skating.

The importance of healthy eating was emphasized by providing healthy lunches and snacks each day.

The third day, campers were provided an opportunity to select healthy lunch choices from the water park lunch facilities.

Incentives included Nike water bottles on the first day, t-shirts with camp logo on the second day and a trip to “Big Splash” water park on the last day.

A risk assessment was designed to show each camper their risk of getting diabetes. Parental consent for these assessments was obtained and recommended follow up of results were communicated to them.

These camps, evaluated and improved camps, will be offered at other MCN communities each summer.

The Mvskokvlke PRIDE (Preventing and Reducing Indian Diabetes Everyday) - Diabetes Prevention Day-Camps for Youth were initiated during the summer of 2004.

The MCN Diabetes staff received the IHS Directors group award in Health Promotion Disease Prevention for the 2004 PRIDE camps.

The Diabetes Program will continue to include this youth program as a component of community-based diabetes prevention.



Mvskokvlke PRIDE campers and staff

Transportation resources were provided by vari-

curriculum throughout each day during cooperative

Tobacco Prevention complete 5th Annual 2005 Camp Cvfeknetv

WELLING — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program held Camp Cvfeknetv 2005 during July of this year. The Camp Cvfeknetv participants were welcomed with a sack lunch, registration and opening session. Throughout the day the participants attended sessions that included medicine wheel, policy/advocacy, stickball and drama/communication/video. Along with a rigid session schedule, the participants had the opportunity to enjoy fun games such as basketball, volleyball and swimming.

There were special guests throughout the week. Ace Buckner taught the camp participants about the Muscogee government. Travis Jackson was the camp motivational speaker. Scott Robison and the diabetes staff came to offer healthy activities. Cherrah Quiet explained to the participants about the council and how it is ran. The current Ms. Muscogee Nation came to speak to the ladies about the scholarship pageant.

“We would like to take this opportunity to thank these wonderful people once again for their contribution to the camp.” said Marcus Proctor of the Tobacco Prevention Program.

Actor, musician and nationally known rap artist, Litefoot, spoke to the Muscogee Nation and Cherokee Nation youth about life and being Native American. His emphasis was that Native

children had every chance in the world to become who they want to be in life. “Be very proud of your heritage and make prayer a very important part of your lives” Litefoot said. He was a very positive role model for Native American youth. His dedication to the youth across the Nation was evident in his motivational speech, which was very uplifting and very positive.

Camp Cvfeknetv’s presenters were very informative and did a wonderful job this year. Ray Tainpeah, Antonio Lopez, Kelly Bell and Malonie Tyler were this year presenters. Tainpeah presented the participants with medicine wheel teachings. Antonio Lopez taught the participants how to make a video and commercial. Kelly Bell presented the teachings of stick ball making and traditional values. Malonie Tyler presented the participants with information about policy and advocacy.

The TPP would like to thank the CHR, Social Services, ENP, Ralph Rodgers, Debbie Ridge, Diabetes and the countless volunteers that were a huge part in making Camp Cvfeknetv a success. The TPP Program would also like to say Mvto to all the Camp Participants, presenters, volunteers, tribal members and programs that have played a part in the last five years of camp.

Your work and your devotion to the Native youth, the tribe and the programs will never be forgotten. Mvto for everything.



Entertainer, Litefoot, speaks with camp participants. photo by Ruth Bible

Behavioral Health receives Tribal Infrastructure Grant

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services (MCN BHSAS) was recently awarded the Creek Nation’s first Department of Health & Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Tribal Infrastructure Grant (Circles of Care). Only 11 tribal programs in the United States were selected to receive this highly competitive and distinguished grant award. The grant project will be funded for a total of three years and will receive \$319,714 during the first year and \$350,000 per year for the remaining two years.

The MCN BHSAS grant project named “Momen Ayeckvtes (To Carry On),” will conduct comprehensive needs assessments in the tribal communities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in order to expand the provision of mental health and substance abuse services and to create comprehensive systems of care that will

better meet the needs of American Indian children and their families. Tribal leaders, community providers, schools, parents, youth and other tribal members will be influential in the design of the service delivery system through their participation on an advisory council, focus groups, interviews, surveys and interagency meetings. Success of the “Momen Ayeckvtes (To Carry On)” grant project will result in more funding for behavioral health services within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Dr. Elise Taylor, MCN BHSAS Clinical Director/Principal Investigator, Dr. Bert Thomas, Project Evaluator, and BHSAS staff worked diligently to prepare the grant application for submission.

For further information, contact Dr. Elise Taylor or Daley Tearl, LMFT, ICAADC Substance Abuse Coordinator at (918) 758-1910.

Diabetes Program yields good results with easy access diabetes test

OKMULGEE—Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System clinics provide easy access to Diabetes Yearly Exams. Getting all these annual tests done can take several extra clinic visits for persons with diabetes.

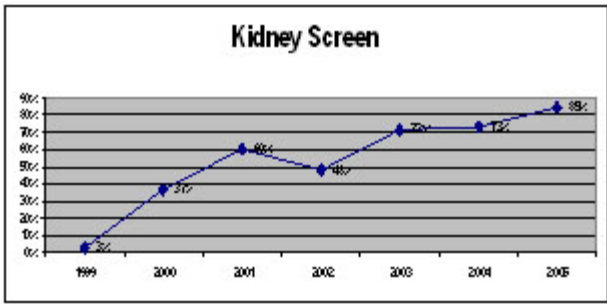
When patients are assisted to get yearly tests done in one visit, they can complete all the exams more easily.

One example of how well this has worked over the years is show in the graph above in Kidney Screen. Other screens that have also im-

proved are Gum screens, foot exams, eye exam and screening for blood fats.

The “Yearly Clinic” allows patients to receive a full report on these and other tests at least once throughout the year. In the next regular visit, providers review the yearly results with the patients and make plans to improve if

needed. For more information contact the diabetes program located in your local Creek Nation Clinic.



Health System announces new Creek Nation Healthy Heart Project

OKMULGEE — The Health System has a new program beginning on Oct. 1. The name of this program is Creek Nation Healthy Heart Project. The goal of this project is to reduce risk factors for cardiovascular (heart) disease in people with diabetes.

People with diabetes are at a very high risk for developing heart disease. In fact, research shows that more than 65% of people with diabetes die from heart disease or stroke. People with diabetes are more likely to have heart attacks earlier in life and their heart attacks are more likely to be fatal. The good news is that by lowering risk factors associated with heart disease like blood pressure, lipids (blood fats) and blood sugar one can greatly reduce their chances of getting heart disease.

If you would like more information or are interested in being considered for participation in this program, call Debra Dixon RN, Case Manager at (918) 756-3334, ext. 243.

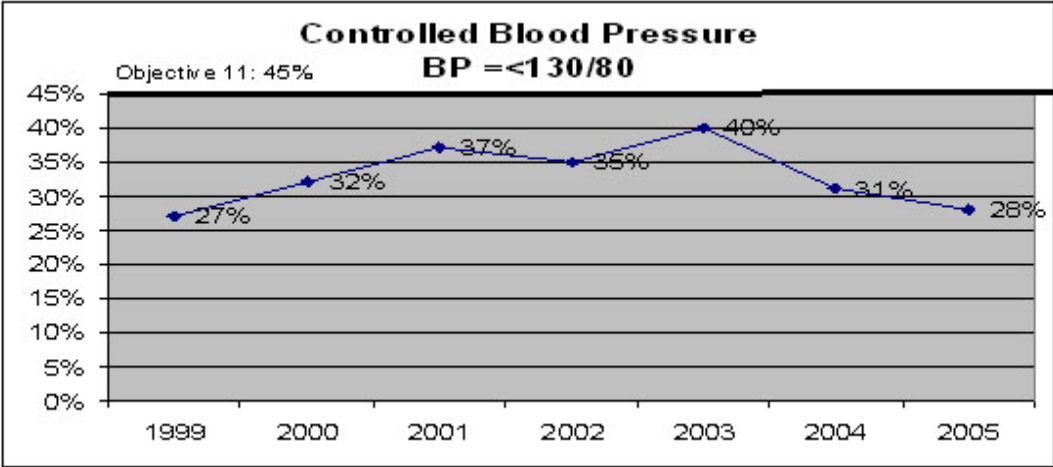
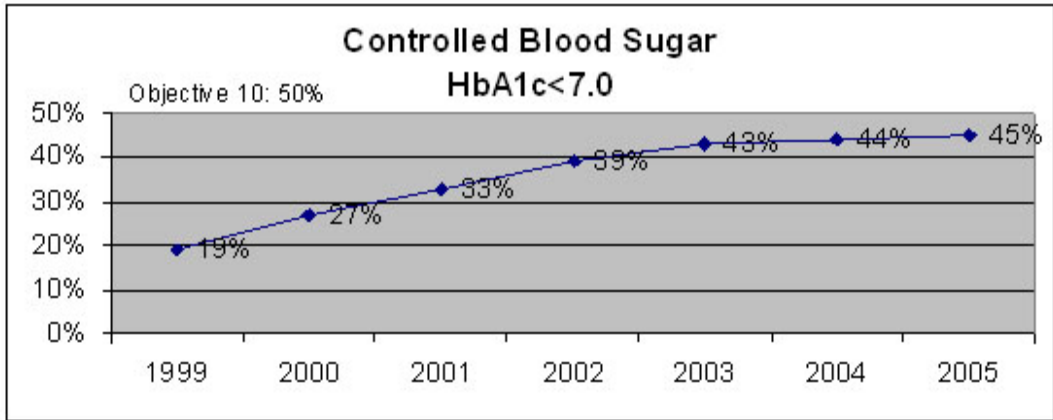


Chart shows that since 1999 the percentage of MCN diabetes patients with blood pressure control improved and then decreased for reasons yet to be determined. This will be an area of strong concentration for program participants.



The Controlled Blood Sugar chart shows that since 1999 MCN diabetes patient as a whole have improved their blood sugar control.



Mortgage Assistance Program expands services statewide

OKMULGEE— The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mortgage Assistance Program has recently expanded its services to cover the complete state of Oklahoma. Previously the Mortgage assistance program was available only to Creek Citizens living within the Creek Nation boundaries but with the recent approval of policy change by the National Council the Mortgage Assistance Program is the first housing program to be administered outside tribal boundaries.

Since this new administration came into office two years ago and created the housing division, Chief Ellis wanted to help more creek citizens become stabilized.

This new expansion does just that by serving creek citizens throughout the entire state of Oklahoma in becoming homeowners.

With many Native American families finding it difficult becoming homeowners due to the high cost of obtaining a mortgage loan, the Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help eligible clients with the financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan. The Mortgage Assistance Program helps Native American people become first time homeowners by assisting them with out of pocket expenses, such as down payment and closing fees. The assistance is provided as a grant for families who meet program requirements

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by the Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the National Median Income published by HUD
- Be 18 years or older
- Provide all requested information, CDIB for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
- Preference given to Creek Citizens



If a client meets all program requirements they will be pre-approved and referred to an outside lender who will then determine if the client qualifies for a mortgage loan. The applicant must be aware that MAP pre-approval does not guarantee a mortgage loan from an outside lender.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

what are the income guidelines?  
NAHASDA Income guidelines are based on 80% of the National Median Income (NMI) as provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Can I apply if I currently live out of state, but want to move back to Creek jurisdiction?  
Yes, as long as the applicant will be buying and living in the home permanently within Oklahoma  
Do I have to find my own lender?  
We will refer you to a lender that is familiar with the Mortgage Assistance Program.  
Does the Mortgage assistance have to be repaid?  
The Mortgage Assistance Program offers the

assistance as a grant. Only if you sell your home or if you are foreclosed on within five year period from the date or receiving the grant would you have to repay it.

Applying For Services

- 1) Submit a Mortgage Assistance Program application complete with copies of all necessary documents.
- 2) The Mortgage Assistance Department will determine if the applicant meets all the program criteria.
- 3) A letter of eligibility and supporting documents will be given to the client to take to a lender recommended by the Mortgage Assistance Program.
- 4) The lender will determine pre-approval of a mortgage loan.
- 5) If approved by the lender for a loan, the applicant must locate a home for purchase.
- 6) Mortgage Assistance will prepare the down payment and closing

costs assistance check.

7) Mortgage Assistance Department will go to the closing with their client and will provide the lender with the check and other necessary documents.

8) The loan will close.

For more information call or write: Mortgage Assistance Program, Vicky Curry, 918-759-4137 or 1-800-259-5050, P.O. Box 297, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

*Please!*  
Hand this  
To A  
*Friend*  
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Loans from \$136 - \$727

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Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Programs

Lease with option to purchase Program

The lease with option to purchase program offers Native American families affordable housing with an opportunity for home ownership.

When participating in the lease with option to purchase program the home buyer enters into



a lease agreement with HACN and agrees to meet all financial and maintenance obligations for a period of twenty-five years, as required by the lease with option to purchase agreement, the home becomes sole property of the home buyer.

To be eligible for admission to the lease with option to purchase housing program operated by this authority applicants must:

- Qualify as a family (includes a family with or without children, an elderly family, a near elderly family, a disabled family and a single person). At least one family member must be of an Indian descent.
- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Be low income and living in or wish to live in the Creek Nation Jurisdiction Area;
- Quality as a low income family, whose income does not exceed 80% of the national median income, as set by HUD. Income limits are adjusted for family size and updated on an annual basis.
- Have a minimum annual income of \$5,000 which, after deductions should be sufficient to demonstrate the ability to satisfy obligations such as, utilities, maintenance and minimum payment.

- Use the home as principal residence during term of lease.
- Provide all requested information, Creek citizenship card or degree of Tribal membership or CDIB (Certificate Degree of Indian Blood) of a federally recognized Indian tribe social security cards for all family members and employment and/or income verification, for each working family member 18 years of age or older who is employed in the home.
- Sign all required forms including the Authorization for release of information/privacy act form.

Rehabilitation of Privately-owned homes

The Rehabilitation of privately-owned homes program provides assistance to existing homeowner by affording them a clean, safe and sanitary home.

The Program provides for the rehabilitation services of privately-owned homes for low income Native Americans, with preference afforded to Creek citizens who reside in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Jurisdictional area. The program follows the National Median Family Income schedule published annually by HUD, as well as other federal regulations.



The scope of items included under the program may include roof repair, foundation repair, plumbing, electrical, sewer systems, cabinetry repair, HVAC repairs, or installations. Not included under the program are general maintenance or cosmetic repairs.

To be eligible for admission to the Rehabilitation of privately owned homes housing program operated by this authority, applicants must:

• Qualify as a family (includes a family with or without children, an elderly family, a near-elderly family, a disabled family or a single person).

- Be low-income Indian families living in the Creek Nation Jurisdictional area.
- Provide proof of ownership and of the dwelling to be rehabilitated and must have resided in the dwelling three (3) years prior to requesting services.
- Having an annual family income which does not exceed eighty (80) percent of the National Median Income for their family size, as defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- Not have received any housing services through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation within the last eight (8) years. This includes Mutual help homes.

Preferences will be given to the participants in the following order:

A. Creek citizen

1. Elderly, disabled or handicapped, on a fixed income living in substandard housing.
2. Creek citizen, large family living in substandard housing.
3. Single creek citizen living in substandard housing

B. Other Indian Tribes.

Rental Properties

The Housing Division Rental Properties provides low cost rental housing for Native American families. The affordable Housing Program consists of 4 separate rental additions located in the towns of Okmulgee, Okemah, Checotah, and Eufaula. The program has a total of over 300 living units with each rental location having approximately 75 units (duplexes). While providing affordable housing it is the policy of HACN to avoid concentrations of financially and socially deprived families at any one or all the housing additions. Therefore, HACN attempts to compose a body of renters

from a broad range of incomes representative of low-income Indian families within that area.

Questions or Concerns, contact:  
Housing Division Rental Properties P.O. Box 297 Okmulgee, OK 74447 or call toll free 1-800-259-5050 and local at (918) 756-8504 or fax (918) 756-9218.

To be eligible for admission to the rental properties operated by this authority, applicants must:

- have an annual income, which does not exceed the applicable income limits except as exempted for Police Officers.
- be 18 years of age or older or be 17 years old and married, or emancipated.
- provide all requested information, including social security numbers and evidence of citizenship or eligible immigration status for all members of the household plus employer identification numbers for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.

In selecting families, it shall be the policy of the Housing Authority to make resident selections as outlined below:

Eligible tribal creek citizens, who are involuntarily displaced by government action or natural disaster, or by fire (does not include arson by the home buyer or criminal act.)

- Full blood (4/4), elderly (62 and over), and Creek tribal citizens.
- eligible large families, elderly families, near elderly families, and a family with disability that are creek tribal citizens
- all other creek citizens
- total tenant payment assessed each lessee family shall be an amount based on their adjusted income by 30%.





Domestic Violence Awareness month

OKMULGEE— The Muskogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program is currently offering the following services to victims of domestic violence: individual and family counseling, weekly support group and parenting classes. In addition, program staff can assist clients with obtaining a Protective Order, locating emergency shelter and can also assist with transportation.

In order to receive assistance with food, clothing, rent, and/or utilities a client must be willing to sign and complete a service plan. FVP also operates the Apet-te Transitional Living Program, which assists eligible clients in achieving independence, by providing housing, food, clothing, and intensive services to meet the client’s needs.

In order to determine eligibility, interested persons must first complete an intake by contacting Children and Family Services at (918) 732-7869 or 1 (800) 521-5432. An intake may also be completed in person by visiting the office located at the main complex in the Community Services building.

NCAI returns to Oklahoma

WASHINGTON — For the first time in 16 years, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is bringing its annual convention and Trade Show back to Oklahoma. The organization will holds its annual meeting at the Tulsa Convention Center on October 30 through Nov. 4.

NCAI, the oldest, largest and most representative National Indian Organization in the country, is recognizing the 1975 Indian Self-Determination Act. More than 3,000 tribal leaders and attendees are expected to attend. “We hope this serves as a foundation for discussion about where we, as tribal governments, have come and where we envision ourselves going” said NCAI President Tex G. Hall.

2005 is an election year for NCAI and a new President, as well as executive board representatives and area Vice Presidents, will be elected. Hall has served the organization for back-to-back terms. NCAI’s tentative annual convention schedule is as follows: Oct. 29, Powwow and Tribal Embassy Golf tournament; Oct. 31, NCAI Trade Show with over 120 vendors featuring everything from Native arts and crafts to universities and tribal displays (free and open to the public through Nov. 4.); Oct. 31, NCAI Press Conference from 12 p.m. -1 p.m.; Nov. 1, Miss NCAI Pageant from 7 p.m. - 1 p.m.); and Nov. 2-3, Annual Fitness Rally and Walk from 11:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.

For more information about NCAI’s 62nd Annual Convention and Trade Show and other

events, visit their website at [www.ncai.org](http://www.ncai.org).

Social Services Department has moved

OKMULGEE— The Social Services Department has moved to a new location. Which is now located at 408 W. 6th St. Okmulgee, OK. The department also has new phone and fax numbers. You can contact them by phone at (918) 759-2334 or by fax at (918) 759-9988.

By-laws and constitution training date set

OKMULGEE—On Oct. 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Community Research and Development Department will be conducting training on the newly revised by-laws and constitutions for each community center.

The training will be held at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition building. Tribal departments, such as Risk Management, Realty, GAS/Facilities, and other departments within the Muskogee (Creek) Nation, will be present to discuss their respective departments.

Bar-B-Que and desserts will be provided by Community Development. Each community attending is asked to bring a covered side dish. For more information, contact Donna Martin at (918) 732-7962.

Human Development sponsors contest

OKMULGEE — The Division of Human Development will be sponsoring a pumpkin carving contest in conjunction with a costume judging. Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Participants are asked to bring pumpkins that have already been carved.

For more information, contact Melinda Taylor at (918) 732-7727.

Third Annual Warriors’ Showcase Shoot-out

DEWAR — The Third Annual All-Indian Warriors’ Showcase Shoot-out basketball tournament will be held on Nov. 25-26 at the Dewar High School Gymnasium.

Age divisions and entry are as follows: 5-6 years old (co-ed), \$30; 7-8 years old (boys & girls), \$40; 9-10 years old (boys & girls), \$50; and 11-13 years old (boys & girls), \$60. Also, each team is required to bring an unwrapped \$10 gift/toy. The \$10 gift/toy will be donated to the Muskogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Department for their annual Angel Tree Project. Deadline for entries is Nov. 14.

For more information, contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 650-3920 or visit [www.4loveofthegame.org](http://www.4loveofthegame.org).

Transit Authority to begin running new bus routes

OKMULGEE — Since Oct. 10, the Transit has started the Muskogee/Coweta and the Eufaula/Hanna routes. The Muskogee/Coweta route will run on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and the Eufaula/Hanna route will run on Tuesday and Thursday. If you would like to make a reservation to ride the bus please call the day before between the hours of 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. For more information call (918) 759-7775, Transit Dispatch.

MUSKOGEE/COWETA  
(Monday/Wednesday/Friday)

5:00am Leave Complex  
5:45am Arrive Muskogee Casino  
6:15am Arrive Wagoner  
6:35am Arrive Coweta  
7:10am Arrive Bixby Sutherlands  
7:45am Arrive Complex

5:00pm Leave Complex  
5:45pm Arrive Muskogee Casino  
6:15pm Arrive Wagoner  
6:35pm Arrive Coweta  
7:10pm Arrive Bixby Sutherlands  
7:45pm Arrive Complex

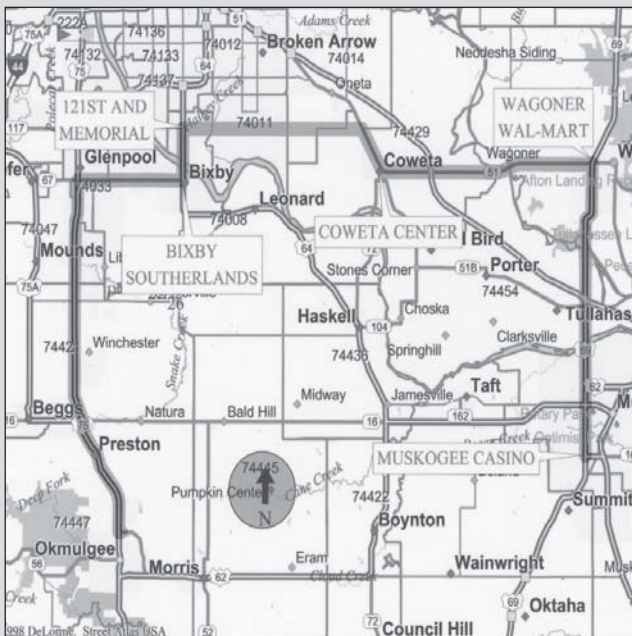
This return route may be reversed occasionally to allow riders from Coweta an earlier return time. There may be a mid day route added later as the need arises when the Coweta Clinic is finished.

EUFAULA/HANNA  
(Tuesday & Thursday)

5:00am Leave Complex  
5:50am Arrive Eufaula Center  
6:30am Arrive Hanna  
7:30am Arrive Dewar  
7:50am Arrive Complex

5:00pm Leave Complex  
5:50pm Arrive Eufaula Center  
6:30pm Arrive Hanna  
7:30pm Arrive Dewar  
7:50pm Arrive Complex

There may be a day schedule added for this route at a later date.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Division of Health

The Muskogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Van Driver (2 positions)

Muskogee ENP and Twin Hills ENP (Part Time)

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler’s permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver’s License and be insurable.

CEO - Creek Nation Health System

Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities: Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contract Health services.

In addition, candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the field.

Staff Dentist - Sapulpa:

Requirements: ADDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

LPN - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited practical nursing curriculum is required. One year relevant experience as a member of a nursing team. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Practical Nursing and current CPR certification.

Medical Records Supervisor - Sapulpa

Requirements: An Associate’s Degree in Business Communications or a related field or graduation from a technical or vo-tech program in a related field of study. A minimum of five year related experience is required. Related experience may be substituted for educational requirements and prior experience and knowledge of third party billing.

Public Health Nurse - Okmulgee

Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. Two years of relevant experience in the field of Public Health. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Registered Nursing (prefer BSN), or Diploma, or an AD nurse.

CEO - Division of Health Administration

Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities: Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contract Health services.

In addition, candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidence by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the field.

Facilities Manager - Coweta

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of a program/train-

ing in construction technology, electrical or HVAC maintenance or related field from an accredited technical or engineering school is strongly preferred. One year relevant experience in HVAC maintenance is required. Professional licences or certifications relevant to this position are not required but will benefit an applicant.

Human Resources Assistant

Requirements: Associates Degree in a related field of study. One year relevant experience. Additional experience may be substituted for education. Incumbent must possess current Oklahoma State Driver License and be insurable.

Physician - Family Practitioner - Coweta

Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the Administration, Management, or related field of study is required. A Masters Degree (MPH) in a related field is preferred. A minimum of two years experience in the health care management/administration field is required, preferably in a tribal environment.

Physician - Coweta

Requirements: Candidates must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D. or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

Incumbent must possess current State of Oklahoma License to practice medicine and/or be able to obtain this license prior to employment with the Health System.

Staff Dentist - Coweta (3 Positions)

Requirements: ADDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or, a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements or a new graduate preferably within an HIS preceptorship (internship).

Clinical Director - Behavioral Health Services

Requirements: A Ph.D. or Psy. D. in Clinical or Counseling Psychology from an accredited college/university. Five (5) years experience as a licensed psychologist. Five (5) years of managerial or supervisory experience. Current Licensure by the State of Oklahoma as a Psychologist or Health Services Psychologist is required.

Patient Registration Clerk - Okemah (Temporary)

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of a program or training in Medical Office Technology or a related field is preferred. A minimum of one (1) year relevant experience is required.

Patient Registration Clerk - Okmulgee

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of a program or training in Medical Office Technology or a related field is preferred. A minimum of one (1) year relevant experience is required.

For more information visit the on-line site @ [www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/health%administration/Jobs.htm](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/health%administration/Jobs.htm). Or for contact information call (918)756-4333 or (800)782-8291.



Johnson O’Malley holds first In-Service training for the 2005-2006 school year

OKMULGEE — The first In-Service training for the 2005-2006 school year for the Muscogee Creek Nation Johnson O’Malley program was recently held at Green Country Technological Center. The training with a capacity crowd, included JOM coordinators, Indian Education Committee members, and School Administrators. There were forty-five schools represented out of 46 in the Muscogee Creek service area.

The participants attended workshops and heard presentations from the Cultural Preservation Department, Child Care, new Language Program, and the JOM Program. Participants also met and discussed with Gates Millennium Scholarship awardees about their experiences of being recipients.

Two JOM schools were presented honors; Bearden Public School was awarded the Exemplary Program of the Year. Dustin Public Schools received the Honor Program of the Year. Both schools will receive recognition at the 2006 Joint-Tribe JOM Conference being held in Tulsa this coming March.



Pictured above is another JOM sponsored event, the annual Challenge Bowl.

College of the Muscogee Nation

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation is the Muscogee Nation Tribal College Initiative created by an act of the Muscogee Nation National Council (NCA 04-151, NCA 05-072) and signed into law by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis on Sept. 1, 2004. President, Myra Starr, took office on Aug. 15.

The Regents are: Blue Clark, History faculty at Oklahoma City University; Sharon Mouss, Arts and Sciences Faculty, OSU-Okmulgee; Robert Bible, Superintendent, Checotah, Oklahoma schools; Pandee Ramirez, Attorney; and is chaired by Ramona Mason, retired Tulsa Public Schools art educator. Executive Assistant to the President and the Regents is Diana Blackwell.

The College of the Muscogee Nation will become a fully accredited freestanding institution offering associates in science, arts and applied science. Eventually, it will offer bachelor and graduate degrees.

Through an agreement with the Oklahoma State University system, the college currently offers courses for credit in the Muscogee language at OSU-Okmulgee, and provides the tribally-oriented social science and humanities courses towards a police science associate degree through OSU-Oklahoma City.

As the college moves through the planning stages there is much work to be done, not the least of which is to develop unique and quality programs for Muscogee citizens. Toward this end it is anticipated that within 15-30 days, there will be an announcement for a search for the following positions; Academic Affairs/ Registrar Officer, Curriculum/ Faculty Specialist, and a Secretary The announcements will appear at following link: [http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/Personal/pers\\_JobOPP.htm](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/Personal/pers_JobOPP.htm).

The charter associate-degree graduation class will enter in autumn of 2006. Toward that end, the college anticipates offering sabbatical fellowships to teach and help us develop our courses to make them unique, yet compliant to degree requirements in all academic areas.

The College will be soliciting proposals for workshops in a variety of academic and tribal topics as part of their *Tribal Excellence Seminar Series*. Special topic seminars dedicated to students, such as contemporary issues in Indian country, as well as those topics that will contribute to student health and well-being, will be considered. Those solicitations, when firm, will also appear at the following link: [http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/humandeve/humdev\\_college.htm](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/humandeve/humdev_college.htm).

In celebration of the charter class, the College anticipates holding an academic forum in Mvskoke Studies, hoping to attract academic as well as secondary and primary presentations. Look to the above link for further information as details become available.

If you have any questions or would like more information, contact the tribal College at: College of the Muscogee Nation, 1801 E. 4th, Okmulgee, OK 74447; by phone at (918) 293-5464; or by e-mail at: [cmn@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:cmn@muscogeenation-nsn.gov). Information can also be obtained by logging on to: [www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov).

*Flowing Creek Massage*

For appointment call:  
Marcia Prado, LMT  
cell: 918.360.9980

Ask Marcia about  
your Creek discount

*Hideaway Full Service Salon*  
949 N. Elm Place - Broken Arrow, OK  
918.251.4082

1/2 hour - \$30.  
1 hour - \$60.  
1 1/2 hours \$90.

Chair Massage:  
~ Neck, el. Shoulders: \$5,  
~ Neck, Shoulders  
and Back: \$10  
~ Neck, shoulders,  
back and arms: \$15.

GED testing held every Wednesday at the Human Development Building

OKMULGEE — GED testing is held every Wednesday in the Employment and Training classroom in the Human Development Building.

In order to be eligible for the test, participants must:

- be 17 years or older;
- live in the Creek Nation boundaries;
- and have proof of citizenship of any federally recognized tribe.

When coming in for the pretesting, plan to stay up to four hours. After completion. The test will be graded to indicate what subjects you need help in or to see if you are ready for the State Test.

Workbooks will be issued for subjects you need help in, or a GED class will be offered free of charge, if offered in the area you reside in.

When you are determined to be ready for the test, you will be scheduled for the next available date.

For more information, contact Debbie McGirt at (918) 732-7780 or 1(800) 482-1979, ext. 7780.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl

OKMULGEE — Over the past two years the Challenge Bowl team participation has declined due to school conflicts. The game began competing with baseball, softball, prom and other school activities.

Concerned with the matter, the Challenge Bowl Core Group felt it was necessary to consider other options. The group chose the month of November since it is a relatively slow month for the schools and with November being considered by most of the schools as Native American Month.

With the deadline now closed and participation up, the news dates chosen have proven to be the right choice. The Challenge Bowl’s budget for teams per division is 26. The Challenge Bowl now has 28 in Elementary, 29 in Middle, and 23 High Schools teams. “We always anticipate a few teams dropping out so this should keep us at about 26 per division,” said Virginia Thomas, JOM Manager. “We’re looking forward to a big year.”



EOSC to host American Indian College Day

WILBURTON — On Friday, Oct. 28, Eastern Oklahoma State College will be holding their American Indian College Day at EOSC Student Union Ballroom. The agenda for the EOSC College Day is as follows:

9:30 a.m. - Registration and Refreshments/Student Union Ballroom

10:00 a.m - Welcome- Rachael McClure, NASA Club President  
Opening Remarks, Richard Bernard, President, Eastern Oklahoma State College  
Guest Speaker, Joy Cullbreath, Director of Education, Choctaw Nation

10:45 a.m. - Group Picture, Choctaw Nation American Indian Center  
11:00 a.m. Dormitory tour, Native American Student Association

11:15 a.m. - College/ Career Outlook (Juniors)- Johnston Hall Lobby Shara Olive (lunch for Underclassmen)

11:15 a.m. - Financial Aid (Senior), East Cafeteria Larry Wade and Leah Miller (lunch for Seniors)

12:15 p.m. - Browse Session and Door Prizes, Student Union Ballroom

12:30 p.m - Dance, Boonies

Participants are welcome to setup their booth during the registration time or after 11:00 a.m. From 12:00 p.m. to 1:00p.m., students will participate in the browse session. This is where they will visit organizational booths and receive valuable information. Around 1:00 p.m., the program will conclude with door prizes. If your organization would like to bring a door prize for the students please contact EOSC.

If you plan to attend this event, please contact Russell Shaw at (918) 465-1743 by October 21.

Higher Education Program

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Higher Education Administration serves college students who are tribal members residing and attending Colleges and Universities in the United States. Their purpose is to provide supplemental financial assistance to students of Creek descent pursuing a college and post college level education.

HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP (BIA )

Maximum amount of Award per semester/quarter:

- \$0 - \$1000 Dependent
- \$0 - \$1500 Independent
- \$0 - \$2000 Married

Requirements:

- Possess CDIB Card (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood)
- Possess Creek Tribal Enrollment Card
- Recent Photo
- Letter of Acceptance from College /University
- High School Transcript or GED Certificate and College Transcript (if prior college)
- Signed Privacy Statement attached to application
- Financial need must be established through the University Financial Aid

Students who receive the grant are expected to earn 15 hours per semester or quarter with a GPA of 2.0 or more. The awards must show academic progress: Students earning less than 15 hours or less than 2.0 shall be placed on probation. Students earning less than 12 hours or less with a GPA of less than 1.0 shall be suspended, unless student can provide a documentary evidence of illness.

The Higher Education Scholarship is limited to 10 semesters, 150 hours or Bachelor’s degree and for first time degrees. (Limit for a junior/community college is 5 semesters or 60 to 65 hours or associate degree).

Closing Date: Fall June 1 - Spring Dec. 15th

TRIBAL GRANT

The Tribal Funds Grant will award applicants who are enrolled tribal citizens. Maximum amount of Award per semester:

- Full-Time Students (12 hrs or more): \$1,000 per semester/quarter
- Part-Time Students (less than 12 hrs): \$ 500 per semester/quarter

Requirements:

- Possess Creek Tribal Enrollment Card
- Provide Recent Photo
- Signed Privacy Statement attached to application
- Education Plan attached to application
- Verification of enrollment is established through the University and College Registrar’s Office
- The student must maintain a 2.5 GPA for program compliance. It is the student’s responsibility to submit grades from the previous term for continuance of program. Students earning a term GPA below 2.5 and 1.5 shall be placed on probation. Those earning below 1.5 GPA for the term and those withdrawing without a valid medical reason shall be suspended from the program. To become eligible for reinstatement, student must finance self and provide grades earning 12 hours at 2.5.

The award may be used to supplement other sources of aid. This program is limited to 10 semesters per student.

Closing date: Fall June 15 – Spring Dec. 15th

INCENTIVE GRANT

The Tribal Incentive Grant will award enrolled tribal citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who meet the grade point requirement of a 3.0 or more for the current term at an accredited college or university.

Maximum amount of Award per semester:

- Full-Time Students (12 hrs or more): \$500 per semester/quarter
- Part-Time Students (less than 12 hrs): \$250 per semester/quarter
- This program is limited to 10 semesters. Students may apply within 45-days after the end of term.
- Applications request: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Administration
- P O Box 580 , Okmulgee , OK 74447 .
- Phone #918-732-7689 or [cdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:cdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov)
- Application mail out: Feb. 1 - May 31 FALL
- November 1 – December 9 SPRING
- All programs operate on availability of funds





Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill hold their second annual meeting with religious leaders



Creek woman starts gaming magazine



King overcomes adversity for his love of the game



Section B, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

October 2005

# Council Oak Ceremony 2005

TULSA — The Council Oak Ceremony was held at Council Oak Park on October 15. In attendance were: Chief Ellis; Second Chief Berryhill; National Council Representatives, Sandra Parish, David Nichols, Cherrah Ridge-Quiett and George Tiger and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Royalty. National Council Representative George Tiger served as emcee. Glenpool High School Este Cate Club sang Hallelujah in Mvskoke. Chief Ellis introduced the Ceremonial Ground Mekkos or their designees that were in attendance they include: Arbeka Mekko Raymond Meeley; Duck Creek Second Chief, Felix Brown; Green Leaf Second Chief, Jimmy Deere; Sand Creek (Iron Post) Mekko, Gary Bucktrot; Hickory Ground Mekko, George Thompson; Kellyville Pole-Cat Mekko, Jim Brown; Okfuskee Mekko, Barney Harjochee; New Tulsa Mekko, Jeff Fixico; Peach Ground Mekko, Roman Hill; Tallahassee-Wykokaye Mekko, David Proctor; Tallahassee Cromwell Mekko, Thomas Yahola and Weogufkee Mekko, Billy Hill. Chief Ellis a descendent from Loca Povy Tribal Town welcomed everyone to the site of where the tribal town and ceremonial ground

once stood and what it meant to him to be part of history. Second Chief Berryhill welcomed everyone and spoke on what our ancestors had to endure to come to Oklahoma. Tulsa Mayor, Bill LaFortune, gave a Certificate of Recognition to the Tulsa Creek Indian Community and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation recognizing the 19th Annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony. The following is the history of the Council Oak Tree , it reads: Luchapoga Talasi was a small tribe of Muscogee speaking people located between Auburn and Montgomery in what is now Lee County in the State of Alabama. This Creek Tribal Town along with 43



other Creek Tribal Towns was forced to move to Indian Territory, in what historians refer to as the “Trail of Tears” in the early 1800’s. In a letter written by Col. John B. Hogan, Superintendent of Creek Removal to Secretary of War, Lewis Cass detailing a General Council of the Upper and Lower Creek was held at Locharpogar (Luchi-poga) on March 25-27, 1836. So far has been determined, this council was the last General Council held by the Creek east of the Mississippi River. Hostilities broke out shortly thereafter and were followed by the emigration to Indian Territory. The Council Oak Tree now is the land

mark of where the Luchapoga’s first set their fire down on a hill overlooking the Arkansas River and reestablished themselves here in Indian Territory. Little did they know that this place would become “Tulsa” the second largest city in the State of Oklahoma. At one time, the Council Oak Tree was in danger of being destroyed. At that time, Waldo Emerson (Dode) McIntosh, who later became Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, was the Tulsa County Assessor. He saw where a housing developer was building apartment buildings in the area of the Council Oak and was going to use that site as a parking lot. Of course the tree would have been cut down. Dode McIntosh was able to bring to the attention of the City Council, the importance and historical value that Council Oak had for the beginning of the City of Tulsa. He was able to and negotiated an exchange of this site for another to put the parking lot. The ironic thing is Dode McIntosh is the Lower Creek Chief that signed the treaty that caused the removal of the Muscogee (Creek) from Alabama.



## 12th Annual Trail of Tears Motorcycle Ride

OKMULGEE — On September 19, hundreds of people gathered at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council House to welcome Trail of Tears commemorative motorcycle riders to the end of their journey. The Trail of Tears ride was developed to raise public awareness of the forced removal of Indian tribes from Southeastern lands in the United States. The ride started in Chattanooga, Tennessee and reached it’s end with the celebration in Okmulgee. It was indeed a special day as the riders rumbled in through the streets of Okmulgee coming from the Southeast regions of the country where our ancestors originally called home. The ride has only grown in popularity since it’s inception into one of the single largest bike rides in the world. It has also gained notoriety as it was named “Event of the Year” in 2002 by the Alabama Tourism Commission. The ride attracts people from all over the world and that was evident at the Council House with Minnesota, Canada and even England represented by people present for the event. At around 3:30 p.m., the bikers arrived in Okmulgee with an escort by the Mus-



Trail of Tears riders being escorted into Okmulgee.

cogee Nation Lighthorse Police on what was a blistering hot day. Event emcee, Gerald Wofford, kicked off the celebration on the lawn of the Council House by inviting a word of prayer from Reverend Harry Long. After a piece of traditional Creek flute music played by John Timothy, the cultural celebration kicked off with tours of the Council House Museum and Muscogee arts and crafts. Second Chief of the Muscogee Nation



Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Okmulgee Mayor Everett Horn and bikers in front of new Trail of Tears sign.

moving message on behalf of those that made the long, tragic trip. “They told our people, take a look because this might be the last time you see the sun rise over your homelands,” he said. Second Chief Berryhill spoke proudly of how our ancestors survived the trail in the face of harsh persecution and came out victorious. There were also welcomes from Dave Anderson, Executive Director of the Creek Council House Museum and Dale Young, Executive Director, Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce. At 4:45 p.m., a historical marker dedication ceremony took place led by Bill Cason, Ride Organizer for the Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride. Following the dedication a victory stompdance was held, hosted by the Tallahassee Wykokaye Ceremonial Grounds. All in attendance were treated to a special event that acknowledged the suffering and hardships of our people and the ultimate sacrifice they made for the survival of our nation.



Reverend Harry Long opens event with word of prayer.

## Stomp Dance Classes

TULSA — The National Indian Monument & Institute (NIMI) will be holding Stomp Dance classes discussing the traditional as well as the academic side of Stomp Dance. The classes will be held on Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m. The first class was held on Sept. 29 (end of classes undetermined). The classes will provide: cultural education through lecture, handouts, training and workshops; opportunities for strengthening family dynamics by promoting understanding and demonstrating the Tribal Town roles, etiquette and meanings of celebrating the creator’s gifts; elders an opportunity to share experiences and demonstrate the true meaning of the “Old Dance” and opportunities for those interested in becoming “Old Dance” leaders, shell shakers and tribal town camp providers to learn proper etiquette. NIMI’s objective is to bring back the traditional culture of the “Old Dance” and its benefits to the Native American Community. Guest speakers will include elders and anthropology & archeology professors. The Stomp Dance Program anticipates to: demonstrate a healthy way of life; educate about misconceptions of Native American Stomp Dance; enhance knowledge of songs and meanings and of different tribal stomp dances; increase participation at ceremonial tribal towns; instill pride in youth and others in understanding their Native American Culture and document the teachings for future generations. For further information, contact Chris Hill at (918) 838-3875. The National Indian Monument & Institute is located at 412 N. Boston.



Senior Services Program



Jackson Barnett

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Services Program serves as an advocate for senior tribal citizens and provides information on services available. The program also provides recreational activities, trips, and other social events.

“The Senior Services Programs at Creek Nation tries to help its citizens in whatever way or manner it can,” said Jackson Barnett, Senior Services Manager.

Barnett visits Creek seniors at locations where they meet to familiarize with the program. The program provides speakers and information forums pertaining to senior citizens. To date, the program has provided the following forums: *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Social Security, and Wills and Living Wills.*

According to Barnett, the program is working hard to provide more recreational activities. “Our latest trip to Macon, Georgia was very enjoyable and educational,” said Barnett. “I’m afraid some of us may have gained a couple of pounds on the trip. Details of our trip can be found monthly in the *Muscogee Nation News.*”

A trip scheduled to the Cahokia Mounds National Park near St. Louis, Missouri for the last week in September, had to be postponed due to the lack of applicants. “I sent out letters to all the Creek Nation communities two weeks ago announcing the trip has been rescheduled,” said Jackson. “So far I have received only one applicant. What I believe is

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for that.

With the publication of this month’s *Muscogee Nation News*, I can lay the rumor to rest by officially announcing that the Washington, D.C. trip is planned for the near future. We hope to go before the weather gets real cold.”

Another event being worked on is a Thanksgiving Dinner/Bingo gathering for the Hanna Community Center on Nov. 19. Last year the program held activities at the Creek Nation Elderly Nutrition Center. Another was held at the Northside Activity Center in Wetumka and another at the Community Center in Coweta. “It has been my intent to involve neighboring communities of Dewar, Dustin, Eufaula, Wetumka, and Weleetka,” says Barnett. “I will try to have news and happenings about the senior services program each month for your information.”

The following are a few trips taken by senior groups: Muskogee for the Azalea festival, to Shawnee to celebrate Father’s day, to Okmulgee for Mother’s Day, to the Aquarium in Jenks, to watch the play “Oklahoma” in Sand Springs. Upcoming trips include “The Great Passion Play” in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, Elders Conference in Oklahoma City, the Indian Festival at Ocmulgee National Monument in Macon, Georgia. Possible future trip to the American Indian Museum in Washington, D.C. for those who didn’t get to go last year. Other senior activities included a Christmas party at Creek Nation, Halloween party in Wetumka, and a senior party at Coweta Community Center. Future plans include a Senior Olympics spread out over two weekends here at Creek Nation, and an information forum on Diabetes.

For more information, contact Jackson Barnett at (918) 732-7723.



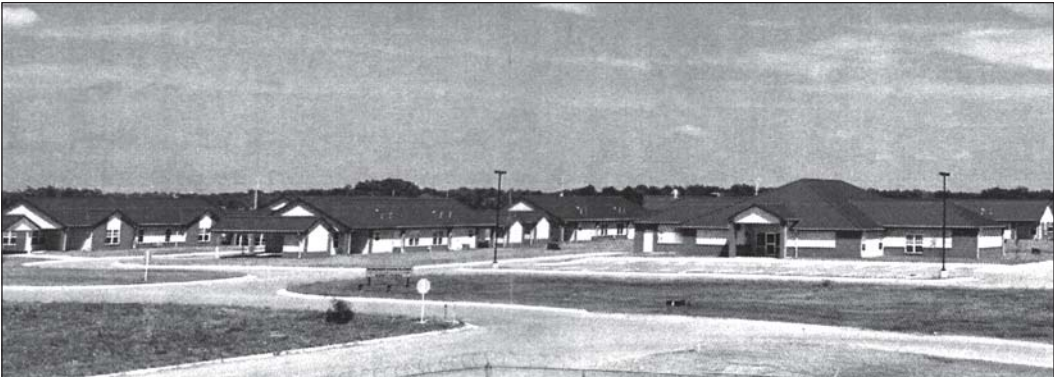
Presentation of Colors in Macon, Georgia.



Stomp Dance Exhibition in Macon, Georgia.



Creek Seniors visiting the Ocmulgee Mounds in Macon, Georgia.



Muscogee Senior Housing Community

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Housing Community provides an excellent environment where elderly Creek citizens can enjoy the independence of performing their basic daily activities while living in a safe and convenient atmosphere.

The Independent Living community will house up to 48 residents in sixteen, two bedroom duplex units.

Each living facilities will be furnished with a stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, and washer/dryer.

All units are equipped with emergency alert switches and a built-in saferoom for use during emergency weather conditions.

The 16 units will surround a 4600 sq. ft. Multipurpose Community building that will serve as a focal point for much of he community ac-  
tivities.

The multipurpose building will include:

- Dining Area
- Fully Equipped Kitchen
- Light exercise Room
- Examination Rooms
- Staff offices

For more information about the Senior Housing Community, contact Linda Lowe at (918) 752-3293.



WHOLESALE AUTO SALES

520 WEST BROADWAY ~ OKEMAH, OK 74859

918-623-2585 ~ 918-623-2537-H 405-831-1033-C

BOBBY WILSON & VIOLA CALLISON

Elderly Housing Updates

- On Oct. 7, some of the tenants took a trip to the State Fair.
- On Oct. 21 they plan to go on a scenic trip to southeast Oklahoma to view the Talimena Drive.
- Every last Wednesday of the month the CHR sets up a health screening at the nutrition site. The next screening will be Oct. 26.



Naomi Lewis

The Elderly housing tenants would like to wish a speedy recovery to fellow tenant Naomi Lewis, she was hospitalized this month at the Tulsa Regional Hospital. She will be returning home very soon.

Okmulgee Indian Senior Citizens

OPEN  
TO  
THE PUBLIC



Gift Shop

Located at the  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation  
Tribal Complex

Hours:

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Closed for Lunch: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.



TRADITIONAL ART, BEAD WORK, JEWELRY, T-SHIRTS, CAPS,  
PAINTINGS, TRADITIONAL CLOTHING, SNACKS  
AND LOTS MORE!

MCN Elderly Nutrition Program Guide Lines

You are eligible to receive one free meal a day if the following applies to you:

A. Native American Indian

1. Must be 55 years old or older
2. Must have a CDIB card

B. Non-Indian

1. Must be married to a Native American Indian who is eligible to receive a free meal.

C. Homebound

A&B mentioned above are eligible with the following for homebound delivery.

1. Has a physical and/or mental impairment.
2. Lives in an isolated area with limited financial resources.
3. Does not have reliable transportation.
4. Has a home provider, however, the provider is not eligible for a free meal.
5. Lives on a route where meals are delivered.
6. Must be at home for meals to be delivered. After a 3 day absence the meals will be stopped. It is the participant’s responsibility

to contact the Nutrition Site Head Cook of the return so that meals will be continued to be delivered.



D. Volunteers:

You must receive a free meal if you are a volunteer and do the following:

1. You must provide an eligible participant with transportation to and from the nutrition site, or pick up a meal for the elder.
2. The volunteer is required to perform more than one task before leaving the site, such as carrying trays/plates for an elder, clean off tables, serve the elders a drink, or lead a song, etc.
3. However, when an elder is escorted by an individual whether they are CHR, relative, or

friend, and there is a doctor’s appointment following the meal it maybe allowable for them to eat with the elder. Otherwise, the individual is required to perform several tasks as noted in #2.

E. Non elderly who can eat a free meal:

1. An individual who has a physical and/or mental impairment as per doctor’s statement and lives with an eligible participant and accompany the person who is eligible to a congregate meal can receive a free meal.
2. All others who are not 55 years old or older are required to pay a guest meal of \$3.00 (This amount is subject to change)

New Participants:

An intake form is to be completed and a copy of CDIB is needed. If the elder upon first visit to the nutrition site does not have a CDIB he/she will be allowed one courtesy meal.

Elderly Nutrition Centers

Bristow Center 121 W. Lincoln Bristow, OK 74010 918-367-2249	Muskogee Center 111 S. Virginia Muskogee, OK 74401 918-682-4904
Dewar Center 402 Luella Dewar, OK 74431 918-652-3310	Okemah Center 110 S. Division Okemah, OK 74859 918-623-3623
Eufaula Center 800 Forest Eufaula, OK 74848 918-689-9191	Okmulgee Center Hwy 75 & Loop 56 Okmulgee, OK 74447 918-756-2982
Holdenville Center 224 E. Popular Holdenville, OK 74432 405-379-5596	Wetumka Center 608 N. Creek Wetumka, OK 74883 405-452-3131
Koweta Center 141 Ben Lumpkin Rd Coweta, OK 918-486-7764	Sapulpa Center 1020 N. Brown Sapulpa, OK 74066 918-227-0519



Honoring Rev. Harry Long

HOLDENVILLE — Salt Creek United Methodist Church will be Honoring Rev. Harry Long on Oct. 21 through 23.

On Friday, a men’s fish fry will be held at 6 p.m. and storytelling at 7 p.m.

Saturday’s agenda includes: fasting, 10:30 until 11:30 a.m.; lunch, 12 until 1 p.m.; men-women nurturing fellowship, 1 until 2:30 p.m.; UMM Purdue Film “Love Feast Fellowship,” 2:30 until 5:30 p.m.; supper, 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. and Muscogee (Creek) singing to follow.

Sunday will begin with Sunday school at 9:30 until 10:30 a.m. and honoree from 10:30 until 11 a.m.

Haikey-Beaver Fund-raiser

COWETA — Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church will be having a fund-raiser for the children and grandchildren of Amos & Stella Beaver on Oct. 22 at 11 a.m.

Their children and grandchildren were hit hard by Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana.

The daily events will consist of: a potluck dinner; silent auction; silent slide show & family movies of the past; cake walk; horse shoes; music and creek singing.

All cash donations are greatly appreciated. If you would like to contribute but are not able to attend, contact Vanessa Beaver at (918) 224-4424 or Doll Miller at (918) 798-0178 or mail donation to: Haikey-Beaver Fund, P.O. Box 415, Coweta, OK 74429.

Fall Singing

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church will be having a fall singing on Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. Concession will be available.

The church is located, from I-40 Okemah Exit 221 – two miles south on Highway 27, four miles east and two miles south. Signs will be posted.

Fall Festival

WILSON — Randall Indian Baptist Church will be having their fall festival on Oct. 29 beginning at 4:30 p.m. with a weiner roast.

Worship service begins at 5:30 p.m. with a hayride immediately following. Some activities will be a fishpond and ringtoss.

For more information, call Roman Harjo at (918) 758-0323. The church is located one mile south of Wilson School, then one mile west.

Gospel Singing

OAKHURST — Indian Fellowship Baptist Church will be having a 5th Sunday Gospel Singing on Oct. 30 beginning at 2 p.m. A dinner will be served. The theme is “Draw me Nearer to the Cross.”

For more information, call (918) 266-1971 or (918) 636-8394. The church is located at 6130 South 58th West Avenue.

Native American Day Celebration to be held

TULSA — Christ The King Citi Church will celebrate Native American Month on Nov. 13.

The celebration starts at 10 a.m. with praise and worship, followed by presentations by special guests: Miss Choctaw Vanessa Jefferson; gospel singing choir, Native Praise; Euchee and Muscogee singers from Morning Star Fellowship in Sapulpa and surrounding communities, and a “Trail of Tears” presentation from a Christian perspective by Louise Deere.

All communities are invited to come and be a part of this celebration. Individuals are encouraged to wear something Native American, whether it is Native jewelry or one’s own tribal dress.

The church is located at 3160 S. 129th East Avenue.

For more information about Native American Missions or Native American Day, contact Patricia Kaseca, NAMB Coordinator, at patricia.k@peoplepc.com or visit www.ctkcitichurch.org.

Church seeking Pastor

HAYDENVILLE — Montesoma Indian Baptist Church is searching for a bi-vocational pastor. The church is a small, rural, caring fellowship which is affiliated with the Muskogee, Seminole and Wichita Indian Baptist Association.

Montesoma is primarily Mvskokvlke and although a Creek Pastor is preferred, all resumes are welcomed by the Pulpit Committee. Send resumes to: Pulpit Committee, P.O. Box 292, Okemah, Oklahoma 74859 or call (918) 623-9126.

Religious leaders meeting held

OKMULGEE — Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill held their second annual Church Leaders meeting on Oct. 1.

An opening prayer, song and welcome were presented by Second Chief Berryhill. Principal Chief Ellis welcomed the group and discussed the purpose of the annual meetings. The purpose for the meetings is to bridge the gap between the churches and the tribe. A grant is available for all Muscogee (Creek) churches in the amount of \$2,500 in alternate years.

Chief Ellis introduced some of his administration which included: Ben Chaney, Transit System; James Williams, Environmental Specialist; Bud McCombs, Indian Health Service and Jackson Barnett, Senior Services.

Ben Chaney, Transit System, replied to questions concerning the over booking of the Muscogee (Creek) bus service. The buses are at capacity each so day it is required to make reservations the day before between the hours of 1 and 4 p.m. He explained that the drivers are qualified for the positions, all drivers must have a valid Oklahoma drivers license and a background check will be conducted which includes their driving record.

James Williams Environmental Specialist, addressed the environmental issues. “We’re relatively a new program and have been in place since 1998,” said Williams. Some issues are to alleviate the need for solid waste disposal and larger dumps. “Land fills are overwhelmed, the trash is stacking up, so if you see a dump, we’ll come out and take a look. One goal is to find what are needs are and must be in by August 1, 2006. Our main goal is to get the equipment and get it cleaned up.”

Bud McCombs, Indian Health Services, states that federal law prohibits IHS to put in waterlines for churches. Federal Funds don’t allow IHS construction service to serve a church ground. IHS is meeting with headquarters to get a better interpretation that accommodates the churches needs.

Chief Ellis stated, “We have established two new departments in the past two years one is our Veterans Affairs Service Office. Ken Davis, Director has secured over 600K for our Muscogee Veterans.”

The other department is the Senior Services Office. Jackson Barnett, Manager, discussed the highlights of his program. One of the mission statements in the program is to provide recreational, cultural and educational trips to seniors citizens and to encourage socialization. “In April, I approached National Council stating the need for transportation for my program, thankfully National Council approved two vans, one 8 & one 12 passenger vans for our seniors. They have been used for some of our seniors that have never had the opportunity to experience these cultural trips to places like Macon, Georgia to explore our home grounds, Gathering of Nations in Albuquerque, New Mexico, educational and inspiring trips through Alabama and Horseshoe Bend. I am happy to provide these experiences for them. Future trips

include St. Louis, Missouri touring the Kahokia Mounds and the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington D.C. Upon announcement of an upcoming trip, Seniors will submit their names to the Senior Services office. The names will be placed in a pool for that trip. The specified number of names are picked by random draw. “I feel this is the most fair and equitable way to select people. This gives everyone an equal chance of being selected or not being selected,” Barnett stated.



Citizens from various Muscogee churches listen to Chief Ellis speak. photo by Lucas Taylor

The next trip for Seniors is to Washington D.C. to tour the NMAI. Seniors can begin submitting names for this event to take place within a month. However, there is a stipulation, if a person was able to go last year or if he/she went to the Indian Elders Conference in Oklahoma City recently with their expenses paid, or went to Macon, Georgia with expenses paid, I am asking those individuals not to submit their names. “Let’s be fair and understanding and give more of our Seniors an opportunity to take part in some activities,” Barnett said.

Chief Ellis mentioned that Barnett has a sign on his door a sign that says “Mvskoke language spoken here”, and we appreciate that.

Wellness & Spirituality XIII Conference

TUCSON, Ariz. — Health Promotion Programs at the University of Oklahoma are presenting the 13th Wellness and Spirituality Conference on November 14 through 17 at the DoubleTree Hotel at Reid Park. The conference theme is “Nurturing the Healer Within.”

This annual conference brings together Native men and women from the Four Directions, and provides an opportunity to share a collective wisdom on issues of Native spirituality and their importance to overall wellness.

Conference highlights include: keynote presentations; skills-based workshops; gourd dance and social powwow; wellness activities;

“Another position was created that required that our native language be written and spoken, was a security officer position. I requested every time someone comes in the door speak our language to them, even if they do not understand,” said Chief Ellis.

Mary Lee of Creek Chapel made a comment John F. Kennedy said long ago, “Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country”. I believe the same holds true for our tribe today. There are lot of

us that have needs that can’t be met, but still we are in a state of turmoil, everybody has needs but there is only so much money available, I am asking each church represented today keep the nation in your prayers, so that we may grow stronger, not by the signs of the mighty dollar but through Jesus Christ our savior, Thank You.”

The churches in attendance were: Newtown United Methodist, Springfield Methodist Church, Choska, Mutteloke, Yeager United Methodist, Tuskegee Indian Baptist, Big Arbor Baptist, Cedar Creek Baptist, Little Cussetah, First Creek Mission, Montesoma Indian Baptist, Hickory Ground Baptist #1, Hickory Ground #2, Creek Chapel Methodist, Arbeka United Methodist, Deep Fork Hillabee Baptist, Thewarle Baptist, Weikawa Indian Baptist, Yardeka Baptist, Salt Creek Methodist, Wewoka United Church, Jubilee Christian Center, Pickett Chapel, Thlopthlocco Methodist Church, Randall Indian Baptist Church, Snake Creek #1, Concharty, Honey Creek, West Eufaula Indian Baptist, Okmulgee Indian Church. Middle Creek #1, Muskogee All Nations, Many Springs, Grant Chapel, Buckeye Baptist, Muskogee Church of Christ, Indian Nations, Rock Springs, High Spring, Solid Rock and Akasama Missionaries.

talking circles and sweats.

The regular registration fee for the conference is \$300 if registering between September 4 and November 4th. All registrations after

November 4th, including walk-in registrations will be \$400. All payments must be made in U.S. funds. Visit <http://hpp.ou.edu> to register on-line.

All participants will receive 2.1 CEU’s from the University of Oklahoma.

Keynote speakers will be Jan

Longboat (Mohawk Nation) and Dr. John Molina (Pascua Yaqui).

For more information, call (405) 325-1316 or visit <http://hpp.ou.edu>.



2005 Muskogee-Seminole-Wichita Association and 4th Sunday Church service dates

October 30 November 27 December 25	November 6 December 4	November 13 December 11	October 23 November 20 December 18
Achena Alabama Alabama Quarsarty Belvin Baptist Cedar Springs Cold Springs Creek Chapel Hutchachuppa Little Coweta Little Quarsarty Many Springs New Joy Mission Okmulgee Baptist Prairie Springs Spring Weogufkee West Eufaula Wewokuce Yardeka	Artussee Beaver Bemo Bird Creek Buckeye Creek Deep Fork Hillabee Hickory Ground #2 Little Cussetah Mekusukey Middle Creek #2 Montesoma Okfuskee Pecan Grove Rock Springs (Sasakwa) Sand Creek (Eufaula) Tulmochussee Wetumka	Butler Creek Cedar Creek (Eufaula) Grave Creek Greenleaf Hitchite Nuyaka Sand Creek Sand Springs Tallahassee Thewahle Tookaparafka Tukapuchee Tuskegee Wewoka Ind. Baptist Yeager Methodist	Arbeka Arbeka Methodist Big Arbor Hickory Ground #1 High Springs (Okemah) High Springs (Konowa) Hilltop Little Cussetah Middle Creek #1 Rock Spring (Anadarko) Ryal Community (Baptist) Seminole Baptist Salt Creek Baptist Salt Creek Methodist Snake Creek #1 Trenton

**BOLD** denotes two 4th Sundays of the month.



BIRTHANNOUNCEMENTS

Koda Sky Ellis

TULSA — Koda was born on June 24 at Hillcrest Hospital to Kim Sue Ellis of Glenpool. Koda Sky weighed 8 lbs. and 6 ounces. Her grandparents are Ken Ellis of Okmulgee and Joan Lacy Ellis of Leach. Koda’s great grandparents are the late Ida (Simmons) Ellis of Hanna and Dennis and Molly Lacy of Leach. She has two sisters, Alexis and Dala and one brother, Adrian.



Mekusapv Charlie Israel-Orie Martel

TULSA — Mekusapv was born Aug. 11 at St. Francis Hospital. His parents are Kimberly and Joe Martel, Jr. of Beggs. He weighed seven pounds and was 19 inches in length. His maternal grandparents are Bridgette and Steve Reagan, the late Annie and the late Charlie (Boomer) Fisher, all of Beggs, Bernice and Alfred Biglow and Carla Reagan, all of Okmulgee. Mekusapv’s paternal grandparents are: Katherine Tecumseh of Tulsa; Joe Martel, Sr. of Dallas, Texas; the late Wisey Scott and the late Israel Tecumseh of Okmulgee; the late Ramona and the late Mike Martel, Sr. of Dallas Texas. He belongs to Nuyaka Tribal Town and is the son of Kvnicate Tribal Town. He is of Creek/Seminole descent. His siblings are Joe III and Casey.

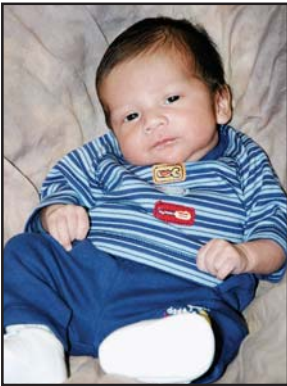


Mekko Keyshawn Smith

OKMULGEE —Mekko was born Sept. 3 to Justina Powell and Shawn Smith. He weighed 7 pounds and 8 ounces. His great grandmother is Louise Harjo of Glenpool, grandmother is Lydia Fowler of Tulsa and grandmother Etta.

Jeffrey Lee Tiger

OKMULGEE — Jeffrey was born on Sept. 14 to Benji and Sheri Tiger of Okemah at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital. He weighed 5 pounds, 10 ounces and was 19 inches long. His maternal grandparents are George Fixico and Joyce Hale of Okemah. Paternal grandparents are Wilson and Rita Tiger Jr. of Okemah and Rosalie Deeringwater of Bristow. Maternal great grandparents are Jennie Fixico and the late Woodrow Fixico of Clearview and the late Billy and Lucy Hale of Cromwell. Paternal great grandparents are Suzanna Bear of Okemah and the late Joe Hicks of Okemah. He is a member of the Wind Clan. Jeffrey has one brother, Bret, and one sister, Mary, of Okemah.



BIRTHDAYS

Sundala Bible - Pinion

PRESTON — Sundala Bible - Pinion celebrated his ninth birthday on October 17 at Preston school with cake and ice cream with classmates. A second party was held at Incredible Pizza in Tulsa, Joined by his family and friends. Bible is son of the late Ron Pinion of Lewisville, Texas, Ruth Bible of Okemah, and Barney Ingram of Okmulgee. He is the grandson of Billie Sulphur-Scott and the late John Ellis “Sundala” Scott and Jean “Moma Jean” and R.C. “Daddy Art” Pinion of Lewisville, Texas. Great grandparents were the late Fannie and Alec Sulphur and Susie (Looney) and Ellis Scott. Sundala has one sister, Mallory, of Okmulgee.



Louise Harjo

OKMULGEE — Louise celebrated her 67th birthday at home with family and friends. She enjoyed a cookout with lots of food and fun. She had her three great grandsons, one granddaughter, two grandsons Joe Looney Jr and two daughters Nellie Powell and Lydia Fowler at her party on September 25.

Anthony, Jordan & Krystin Looney

OKMULGEE — Jordan and Krystin celebrated their first birthday on September 24 with their parents Tome and Julie Looney. They are the grandchildren of Charles and Sharon Looney, Phyllis Berryhill & Homer Saunders, Jr.; great-grandchildren of Margie Saunders; niece & nephew to Melanie Hayden and Brain Looney; and sister & brother to Anthony, who celebrated his ninth birthday as well with family friends on July 23.



Jaebri Evanne Tottress

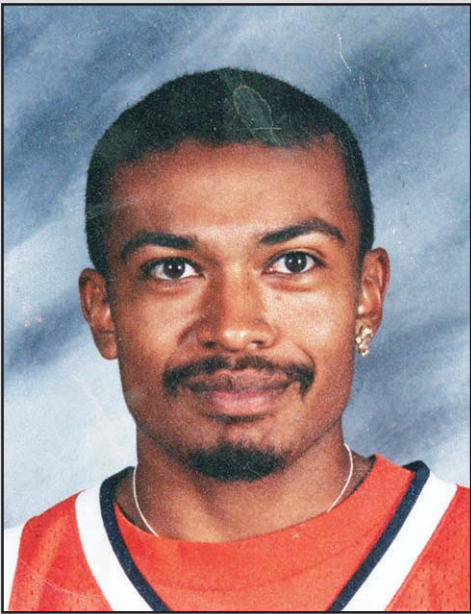
COWETA — Jaebri celebrated her third birthday on September 25 with a Dora the Explorer theme with a host of family and friends. She is the daughter of Kermitta Harris of Coweta and Johnathan Tottress of Henryetta. Her maternal grandparents are Sharon and the late Kermit Harris, Sr. of Okmulgee. Her paternal grandparents are Ivalene Tottress of Henryetta and John Tottress of Boynton.



MUSCOGEE PEOPLE

Colbert inducted into National Honor Roll

TAHLEQUAH — Brandon Nicholas Colbert, a student at Sequoyah High School, has been inducted into the Spring 2004 National Honor Roll. Even as a student at Hanna he was inducted into the National Honor Society. On June 8, he received a letter from Governor Brad Henry, State of Oklahoma. It was such an honor to receive this letter from our Governor. Brandon is the son of Nick and Lillie (Colbert) Murrell and the grandson of James Rudolph and Millie J. Colbert. He is of the Bear Clan and his tribal town is Oktciye. He is a resident of Eufaula. His letter from Brad Henry reads as follows: Dear Brandon Colbert: I recently received notification that you qualified for induction into the Spring 2004 National Honor Roll. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your outstanding academic achievement. Knowledge and education are the keys to your future, and I commend you on your hard work and dedication to your studies. Whatever your aspirations, wherever life takes you, your degree and the knowledge you have gained will open doors to new opportunities for success. Again, I congratulate you on this impressive achievement and wish you all the best in your future endeavors.- Sincerely, Brad Henry, Governor



Hummingbird selected as participant in football coronation

OKEMAH — On September 16, Emmanuel Hummingbird was selected as crown bearer for the 2005-2006 Okemah High School football coronation. At the parade, Emmanuel rode in a MCN Lighthouse patrol car, the driver was Officer Andrew Roberts. He rode in the front seat while grandmother Joan and cousin Samuel Murillo rode in back throwing out candy. The procession ended at Noble Park where the Pep rally was held. For the pep rally, he wore the school colors, black jeans, a black ribbon shirt with gold ribbons. At the football coronation, Emmanuel rode in a 1984 blue Mercedes-Benz convertible, courtesy of C&W Wholesale Auto. The driver was Paul Alred. At the coronation, Hummingbird wore a long tailed Tuxedo with gold ribbon shirt with black ribbons. Accessories were a turquoise bear paw bolo tie, a silver gorget with a brass bear in the center and a white rose boutonniere. The gorget was made by Charles Johnson of Wewoka. He is five years old, of Creek/Seminole and Hispanic descent. He belongs to the Bear Clan. He is the son of Machelie Hummingbird and Ramon Ramirez of Irving, Texas. His grandparents are Joan Dunson Hummingbird and Steven Hummingbird; his maternal great-grandparents are Novena Yahola and Melvin Dunson. He is in Pam Hinkle’s Kindergarten class at Oakes Elementary. He enjoys all kinds of sports; his interests are insects, frogs and turtles. He received the best dribbler award from JOM and he is thinking about becoming a police officer when he grows up. The football queen coronation was held at the Pecan Bowl prior to the OHS Panthers victory over the Kellyville Ponies.



Jon Foster and the Native American Student Association

SAPULPA — How many Indian Tacos does it take to purchase a senior cake with Jon, were fellow schoolmates Brett Alexander, a junior and Vice-President of NASA, and sophomore, John Tate. These guys have figured out how to make entrepreneurship work for them, to purchase their graduation regalia. As a future Business major, being determined to raise the money for his senior year has brought Jon closer to his goal of being able to afford a complete graduation package. It will bring a smile to his face knowing that giving up a few Saturdays with friends will pay off for him, and more importantly, when he walks across the platform to receive his diploma in his school cap and gown. SAPULPA — How many Indian Tacos does it take to purchase a senior cake with Jon, were fellow schoolmates Brett Alexander, a junior and Vice-President of NASA, and sophomore, John Tate. These guys have figured out how to make entrepreneurship work for them, to purchase their graduation regalia. As a future Business major, being determined to raise the money for his senior year has brought Jon closer to his goal of being able to afford a complete graduation package. It will bring a smile to his face knowing that giving up a few Saturdays with friends will pay off for him, and more importantly, when he walks across the platform to receive his diploma in his school cap and gown.





# Creek Woman starts gaming publication

“I wanted to start this magazine because I wanted to promote the positive economic impact our tribal gaming has on the Oklahoma economy,” says Jackson.

**By GERALD WOFFORD**  
*MNN Staff Writer*

SHAWNEE — They say its hard to stop a Creek Woman when she’s determined, a good example is Jackie Jackson. Jackson is the Editor-in Chief and Publisher of *Gaming & Tourism*, a monthly magazine that bills itself as *The Statewide Magazine for the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Industry*.

Jackson premiered the publication in September and has already received excellent feedback. “The magazine has received great reviews,” says Jackson. “At the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association Conference and Tradeshow on Oct. 3-6 we heard all good things from business leaders, tribal leaders, gaming managers, gaming commissioners, lawyers and tribal judges. Ernie Stevens, Jr., chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission came by the booth to compliment on the magazine. He said to keep up the good work and let him know what he could provide in the form of an article or an interview and to continue to use the NIGA (National Indian Gaming Association) information to inform the public here.”

Jackson is also receiving interview requests from such notable media host as George Tiger’s *Inside Native America* television program and Michael Dodson’s radio program out of Shawnee.

She has seen the magazine take off to a great start and has even been told that *Gaming & Tourism* could be the voice in this particular market.

But Jackson is a woman who looks at the big picture and saw an opportunity to showcase a subject that is very important to Native Americans.

“I wanted to start this magazine because I wanted to promote the positive economic impact our tribal gaming has on the Oklahoma economy,” she said. “I wanted to inform the public how the tribes use their gaming dollars to help their tribal citizens, provide jobs for all Oklahomans, and create sustaining economic enterprises.

Jackson stays committed to those ideas, the October issue of *Gaming & Tourism* certainly spotlights just how important events such as the American Indian Chamber of Commerce Business Fair is an important contributor to the Indigenous economy and how the Osage Nation and Choctaw Nation are benefiting.

An article that will really hit home with Muscogee citizens is entitled, “Full Circle-Star steps forward to lead the College of the Muscogee Nation.” In the article, Muscogee (Creek) citizen Dr. Myra Alexander Star is featured and presented as the new President at the College of the Muscogee Nation. Jackson has many sections in the magazine and this article is featured under Enterprise.

Jackson wants to make sure that not only American Indians are aware of the positive things that Gaming and Tourism are contributing, but to non-Indians as well. “The political climate these days involves a lot of negative propaganda about tribal gaming,” says Jackson. “Some talk radio shows discuss our gaming not knowing what we do with our profits. We, as tribal people, need to promote our good deeds and efforts to the general public. We don’t want the public to believe what the talk radio show promote. I wanted our magazine to promote our tribes in a positive way and show the public how we help our Oklahoma economy.”

It was Jackson’s persistence to make sure that the magazine would be available to everyone and to follow a successful recipe in the distribution of it. “The magazine is published monthly and we give them away now,” she explains. “Starting with our November edition we will start a subscription insert. Our printer Spectra Press, in Tulsa, has a distribution and fulfillment center to bulk mail our magazines to subscribers. We will continue to mail our magazines to the gaming managers, tribal CEO, business enterprise directors and board members free. These are the people who need to see our magazine for the quality business advertisers seeking



Jackie Jackson proudly displays the inaugural issue of the Gaming & Tourism magazine she created and serves as Editor-in-Chief. photo by Gerald Wofford

their business. Our magazine has been approved for distribution through the Oklahoma Tourism Department Welcome Centers.”

Jackson understands how important

“I give Indian gaming an ‘A’. I see what good the gaming industry does for our tribal people and the jobs it creates,” says Jackson.

organizations, such as the state Tourism Department, are to welcome such a publication as hers to be on display and represent a part of the state, and she takes great care in making sure it stays that way.

“I am the publisher of the magazine. I am responsible for the format of the magazine every month. I make the determination of who will be our cover story and our tribal tourism story. The format includes our tribal enterprise feature, tribal tourism story, gaming articles, finance articles and the new Native American Entrepreneur spotlight. I am constantly on the search for new material. Since we are a new company I coordinate everything. I assign the stories, coordinate the photos, collect stories, photos and advertisements for the layout and design team and then proof the design before we go to press and I proof the printers proof. I stay very busy. We have two people in sales Mr. Darryl Noble and Mr. Eugene Big Soldier Jr. Gene was very influential in our premiere edition ads. Darryl Noble is our newest salesman who works the Tulsa market. Darryl has his own company Xriot Marketing.”

Jackson graduated from Langston University at OSU-Tulsa with a bachelors degree in Business Administration and received and Associates Degree from Seminole Junior College, in Business Administration.

Jackson, who is also of Cherokee and Choctaw descent, also calls upon a little family help. Her Uncle, accomplished Creek writer Jacob Narcomey, has submitted articles to ensure the magazine had

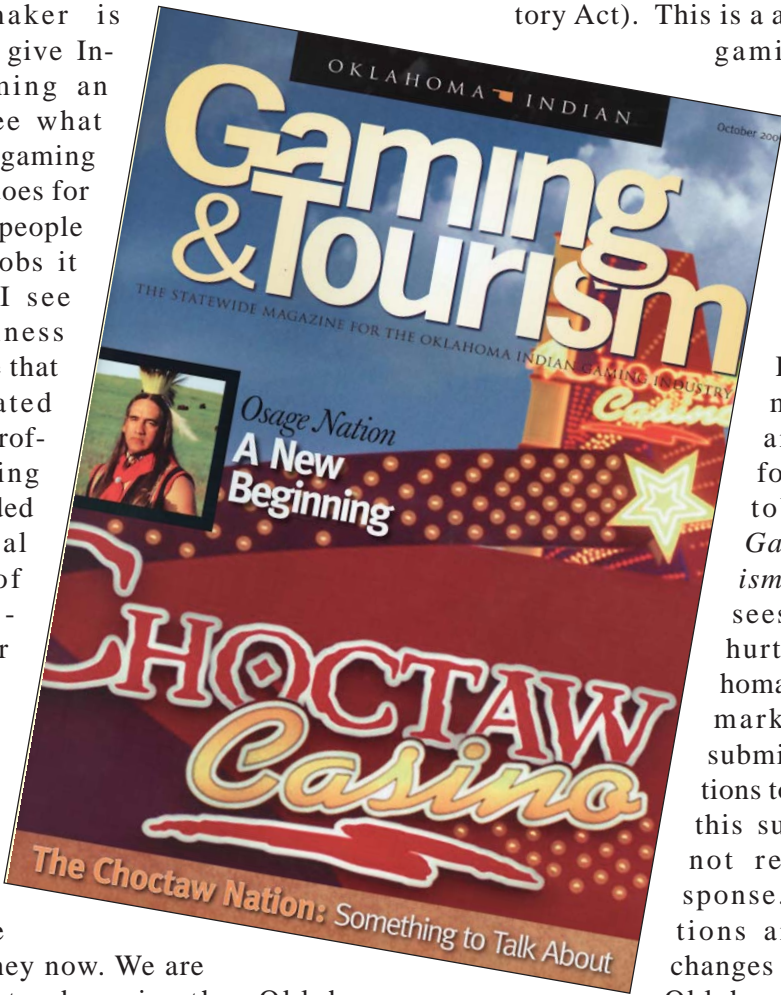
“passion that brings an awesome story.” Jackson’s Father is Jackson Narcomey and her Mother is Edwina Sue Crowder. “Most people know my Father because he silk screens the tribal T-shirts and sells at powwows and different functions,” says Jackson who also boasts of other family members. “I am a Mother of two teenagers,” Jackson says proudly. “Timothy is my 16 year old son and Samantha is my 15 year old daughter. My children keep me busy and are the reasons I work so hard. I have been a single parent for the past thirteen years and just had to keep working hard to survive. My background is in economic development and business so I used my experience to create this magazine.”

Jackson is excited about the state of Indian gaming and she grades how the current business money-maker is doing. “I give Indian gaming an “A”. I see what good the gaming industry does for our tribal people and the jobs it creates. I see the business enterprise that is created with the profits. Gaming has provided a financial means of independence for our tribes. Yes, our tribe still receives our BIA funds but we have other money now. We are now contenders in the Oklahoma economy. We are very important to tourism and bring dollars to this state. Our tribes can create a enterprise to bring more profits to our tribal coffers. Before gaming we didn’t have this type of financial ability to start new enterprise and it was almost impossible to get a bank to loan us the money to start anything. Now we have the ability to leverage our assets to secure more capital to begin a new project.

Our tribal programs have improved over the past twenty years due to gaming revenue. People ask all the time “What does it do for me?”. I explain that our tribal programs have improved and we do provide more jobs. Our school clothing allowance now includes every Creek citizen regardless of income. Our medical programs have improved. We need to let our people know what we, as a tribe, actually do for them beyond the federal funded programs,” says Jackson. “Gaming is good now. We have our compacts in place and we are making profits for our tribes. I just wish the Bush administration and Senator McCain would see our tribes for our successes in gaming. The current Bush administration is trying to change gaming and the federal laws that apply. Senator McCain has been quoted that he wishes to change IGRA (Indian Gaming Regulatory Act). This is a major issue in gaming on a National level.”

Jackson encourages everyone to read the article “A new Era of Economic Termination?” The article can be found in the October issue of *Gaming & Tourism*. Jackson only sees the issue as hurting the Oklahoma Indian gaming market. She has submitted two questions to McCain about this subject, but has not received a response. Those questions are; “How the changes will impact the Oklahoma market and how many Oklahoma tribes be required to pay more tribal fees to the National Indian Gaming Commission?”

For more information about the Oklahoma Indian Gaming and Tourism magazine, contact Jackie Jackson at :P.O. Box 1714, Shawnee, OK. 74802-1714; e-mail, jackie@oigtmagazine.com; by phone, (405) 997-8525; or visit the website at: www.oigtmagazine.com





Community Carnivals & events

**Okfuskee Indian Community**  
The center will hold their annual Halloween carnival & Trail walk on October 30 at 3 p.m.  
There will be a costume contest for ages 0-5 years old. Prizes will be given the first and Second place winners.  
A chili cook off will be available for those who would like to enter. Prize will be given to the first place winner.  
Other games that will be available include: pop ring; cake walk; pop walk; basketball throw; gold fish; and many more.  
Hot Dogs will be provided.  
The Okfuskee center will also be holding a turkey shoot on November 4 beginning at 7 p.m.  
Shells will be provided.  
Concession will be available.  
Everyone welcome! For more information on the Okfuskee Indian Community events contact Annie Hicks at (918) 623-0470.

**Tulsa Creek Indian Community**  
TULSA — Upcoming events at the TCIC are on November 10 there will be a Senior luncheon. A pot luck lunch will be at 11:30 a.m.  
There will also be a board meeting on November 10 at 6 p.m.  
The TCIC will hold Benefit stompdance on November 12 at 7 p.m. until midnight for the TCIC Youth program.  
Concession, door prizes, raffles, 50/50, cake plates and grocery baskets will be available. Vendors are welcome.  
For more information contact Paula Watashe at (918) 298-2464 or (918) 406-7121.  
On November 17 the TCIC will be having a Thanksgiving community dinner. The center is asking if you could bring a covered dish. Dinner will be ready at 6 p.m.  
For more information contact the Tulsa Indian Community Center at (918) 298-2464.

**Twin Hills Indian Community Center**  
TWIN HILLS — Twin Hills will be holding a flea market; bake sale; and Indian taco sale on November 5 beginning at 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Booth space available for \$5.  
The center is located at the corner of Hwy 52 and 16.  
For more information call (918) 733-2786 or 733-9117.

California Muscogee (Creek) Association

STOCKTON — McIntosh, Perryman, Harjo, Berryhill, Grayson, Porter, Bruner, all names identified with Mvskoke culture and history. These families and other citizens met in the pattern of an Oklahoma gathering recently, though 1500 miles away in Stockton, CA.  
The historic assembly, held on Sunday afternoon, October 9 at Oak Park was the first Stockton meeting of the California Muscogee (Creek) association, led its leader, Eli Grayson.



Leah Harjo Cleveland and Eli Grayson CMCA, a day in Oak Park, Stockton, CA.

Held under an open air canape, two tables were covered with good food. Other tables displayed artist renderings of our Chiefs and Warriors. There were dozens of treasured photos shared, courtesy of families that attended. Creek music was offered. The Creek citizens came from all corners of the vast Northern Califor-

nia area. There was even a family from Portland, Oregon.  
Speakers included, Grayson who outlined what the CMCA is all about; community, unity

and involvement. George Windes spoke regarding our former Mvskoke Chiefs and Warriors. Jane Casabat held a separate class for children and then shared a Creek story with the adults. She is a skilled storyteller. Allen Mitchell explained policies & procedures of the CMCA. Grayson then led a short question/answer discussion about current issues. The five hour gathering ended with many attendees lingering, not wanting the day to close. It was a day long to be remembered.  
A special mvto goes out to Leah Cleveland and Gayle McKnight from Stockton and Sacramento area.

If you are interested in hosting a CMCA gathering in your California community, please contact Eli Grayson at (310) 487-7706 or CMCA@comcast.net.



**SUBMIT ARTICLE BY MAIL OR EMAIL TO:**  
Attn. Communications Dept.  
P.O. BOX 580 - Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447  
**Communications@muscogeenation-nsn.gov**

**Articles due:**  
**15th of the Month Prior to Issue**  
*(I.e. For article placement in November issue -content must be submitted by October 15th.)*

*The following information will be required for your article or content to be considered for publication:*  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tribal enrollment number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact (Telephone or email address): \_\_\_\_\_  
Return address: \_\_\_\_\_

If you send Photos or other content you request to be returned please provide a self addressed and stamped envelope with content provided.  
Articles must be printed neatly or typed.

**The Muscogee Nation News reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate the Muscogee Nation News in any regard.**  
**For further information please contact the Communications Department at : (918) 732-7637**

Monthly Community Meetings schedule

**Bristow Indian Community**  
710 S Main  
Bristow, OK 74010  
(918) 367-2249  
Meeting information:  
Third Tuesday each month at 7 p.m. Go South on Main to the last stop light, then two blocks south of stop light, turn right, go 1/2 block to yellow building on right.

**Checotah Indian Community**  
500 Owens Ave.  
Checotah, OK 74426  
(918) 473-5290  
Meeting information:  
Second Monday each month at 6 p.m.  
Officers:  
Mary Kaulay — Chairperson  
Mildred Burkhalter — Vice Chair  
Sue Henson — Secretary  
Fran Pemberton — Vice Secretary  
Max Bear — Treasurer  
Elizabeth Jacobs — Reporter

**Cromwell Indian Community**  
P.O. Box 58  
Cromwell, OK 74837  
Meeting Information: Second Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m.  
Officer: Rebecca Lindsey — Chairperson

**Dewar Indian Community**  
212 Luella Street  
Dewar, OK 74431  
(918) 652-3310  
Meeting information:  
Third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at community center. Two blocks North and one block East of Dewar post office.  
Chairperson: Rex Watson

**Duck Creek Indian Community**  
10071 Ferguson Road  
Beggs, OK 74421  
(918) 267-3460

Meeting information: Second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.  
Officers:  
Emma Gean O'Hern — Chairperson  
Cecil Harry — Vice Chairperson  
Dawn Thompson — Secretary/Treasure  
John Brown — Member  
Nancy Jo Harry —Member  
Juanita Thompson —Member

**Dustin Indian Community**  
P.O. Box 390205  
Dustin, OK 74839  
(918) 652-3599  
Meeting information: Second Monday of each month.  
Officer: Bruce Smith —Chairperson

**Eufaula Indian Community**  
800 Forest Ave.  
Eufaula, OK 74332  
(918) 689-5066  
Meeting information: Last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.  
Officers: Jimmy Jones — Chairperson

**Kellyville Indian Community**  
Officer: Dean Tiger  
(918) 756-8504

**Glenpool Indian Community**  
P.O. Box 946  
Glenpool, OK 74033  
(918) 291-6889  
Meeting information: Second Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m.  
Officer: Melba Williams — Chairperson

**Holdenville Indian Community**  
224 E. Poplar  
Holdenville, OK 74848  
(405) 379-5596  
Meeting information: Third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.  
Officer: George Scott — Chairperson

**Koweta Indian Community**  
P.O. Box 22  
Coweta, OK 74229  
(918) 486-7764  
Meeting information: Third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.  
Officer: Lucille Miller — Chairperson

**Muscogee Indian Community**  
111 South Virginia  
Muskogee, OK 74401  
(918) 682-6912  
Meeting information: First Monday of each month  
Officers: Leon Yahola — Chairperson

**Okemah Indian Community**  
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St  
Okemah, OK 74859  
(918) 623-9227  
Meeting information: Third Monday of each month.

**Oklahoma City Indian Community Center**  
3416 South Robinson  
Oklahoma City, OK  
(405) 605-2621  
Officer: Sue Morgan — Chairperson

**Okmulgee Indian Community Center**  
2701 N. Miami  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 758-0970  
Meeting information: Second Monday of the month at 7 p.m.  
Officer: Tom Tiger — Chairperson

**Sapulpa Indian Community**  
1020 N. Brown  
Sapulpa, OK 74069  
(918) 227-0519  
Meeting information: Second Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

**Tulsa Indian Community**  
8611 S. Union  
Tulsa, OK 74132  
(918) 298-2464  
Meeting information: Last Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.  
Officer: Paula Willits, Chairperson

**Twin Hills Indian Community**  
8110 Highway 52  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 733-9117  
Meeting information: Last Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.  
Officer: Levi On-The-Hill — Chairperson

**Weleetka Indian Community**  
P.O. Box 491  
Weleetka, OK 74880  
(405) 756-2447  
Meeting information: Last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.  
Officer: Jimpsey Micco — Chairperson

**Wetumka Indian Community**  
P.O. Box 224  
Wetumka, OK 74883  
(405) 452-3245  
Meeting information: Second Thursday at 7 p.m.  
Officer: Mary Basquez — Chairperson

**Wilson Indian community**  
25868 Turkey Pen Hollow Road  
Henryetta, OK 74437  
Officer: Billy Chalakee — Chairperson

**Yardeka Indian Community**  
P.O. Box 622  
Dewar, OK 74431  
Meeting information: Last Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.  
Officer: Janet Lee — Chairperson



CHARLES BARNEY BARNETT  
WICHITA FALLS, Kan. — Funeral services for Charles Barnett were held June 4 in the chapel of Hampton Vaughan Crestview.

Charles was born December 20, 1928. He served in Korea, as a Sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corp.

Barnett was an avid fisherman and rattlesnake hunter, a resident of Iowa Park for 30 years, and loved his friends and community.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jaquita and son Bobby.

Survivors include: son, Cody Barnett; wife, Jody; two grandchildren; one daughter, Sandy; two sons, Charles Barnett, Jr. and Jay Todd Barnett; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Interment was held at the Crestview Memorial Park.

ELIZABETH COKER

EUFULA — Graveside services for Elizabeth Coker were held Sept. 28 at Hutchechuppa Indian Baptist Church Cemetery with the Rev. Belvin Hill officiating and assisted by Rev. Dustin Tidwell.

Elizabeth was born June 12, 1927 to Ober and Tilda (Fields) Coker. She was employed with the Eufaula Indian Health Services most of her life and retired from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and enjoyed attending various churches.

Ms. Coker was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Cecil and Charlie Coker; and one sister, Nellie Coley.

CHARLEY BARNETT COLBERT

EUFULA — Funeral services for Charley Colbert were held Aug. 18 at Tuskegee Baptist Church with the Rev. James Colbert officiating and assisted by Reverend Mike McConnell.

Charley was born May 6, 1916 to Leah (Barnett) and Joe Colbert, Sr., and was self-employed as a carpenter until he retired.

Colbert was preceded in death by: his wife, Leona (Marshall) Colbert; one great grandson, and two sisters.

Survivors include: six children, Richmon Colbert of Muskogee, Gary Colbert of Norman, Dr. Charles “Bo” Colbert of Scottsdale, AZ, Rev. Allan Colbert of Muskogee, Phyllis Colbert and Charlene Colbert of the home; 12 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one brother; 4 sisters; and other friends and relatives.

GEORGE DUTCH HICKS

DEWAR — Funeral services for George Hicks were held Sept. 9 at Dewar First Baptist Church with the Revs. Willis Knight and Bridge Chuckluck officiating.

George was born November 3, 1924 to Ella Coker and Joe Hicks. He served in World War II and after an honorable discharge in February 1946 he then became employed as an Aircraft Mechanic at Tinker Air Force Base in Midwest City, retired and made his home in Dewar.

Mr. Hicks was preceded in death by: his wife, Mollie; two sons, Bugs and Monroe; and one daughter, Pamela.

Survivors include: four children, Lawaunta Soap of Muskogee, Dr. Lahoma Schultz of El Dorado, Arkansas, Gary Hicks of Broken Arrow, and Johnny Hicks of Dewar; two brothers, Houston Hicks of Dewar and Red Hicks of Beggs; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren, and a host of friends and relatives.

Interment was held at the New Sonora Cemetery.

WAYNE CARLOS JIMBOY

LAWRENCE, KANSAS — Funeral services for Wayne Jimboy were held Aug. 31 at the Indian United Methodist Church, and on September 2 at Creek Chapel in Okemah.

Wayne was born April 14, 1938 to Jewett and Cora (Anderson) Jimboy. He was a member of the Indian United Methodist Church and Mount Aerie 309 of the Eagles in Lawrence. He was a co-owner of Jimboy Masonry Co., until retiring in 2003.

Survivors include: wife, Charlene, of the home; three children, Woodrow of Colorado Springs, Donna Holton, and Denise Cesare of Lawrence, Kansas; three step-children, Rusty Coffey of Rio Rancho, New Mexico Carrie and Kristie Coffey of Lawrence, Kansas; seven siblings, Thomas and Louise both of Lawrence, Edwin and Etta both of Lexington, Oklahoma, Reuben”Loby” of Oklahoma City, Norma Beaver and Augustine McMann both of Okemah; and 15

grandchildren.

Interment was held at the Jimboy Family Cemetary in Okemah

BARBARA KELOUGH McCRAKEN

WELEETKA — Graveside services for Barbara McCracken were held Oct. 6 at the Kelough Family Cemetery with Rev. Steve Gniech officiating.

Barbara was born March 18, 1961 to Eugene and Louise (Barnett) Kelough. She was a member of the Pipeliner’s Union Local #798 in Tulsa.

Her hobbies included singing, being with her friends and family, taking care of her horses and dogs, and was a big fan of John Wayne.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; husband, James McCracken; and one sister, Donna Satawake.

Survivors included: three children, Crystal Gail Kelough and Dillon Scott Harris both of Oklahoma City, and Brett Douglas of Weleetka; seven siblings, Jimmy Kelough of Oklahoma City, Tony, Eldon, Cort Kelough, Jean Mead, Patricia Zismer, and Loretta Dover, all of Weleetka; three grandchildren, and other friends and loved ones who greatly miss her.

TONY MITCHELL

OKLAHOMA CITY— Funeral services for Tony Mitchell were held Aug. 4 at the family home with Revs. Josie Mitchell, Richmond Carr, and Charles Mitchell officiating.

Tony was born May 8, 1930 to Daniel and Lydia (Simpson) Mitchell.

He enlisted into the U.S. Air Force, did his tour of duty during the Korean Conflict, and was honorably discharged, January, 1954.

Mr. Mitchell is survived by: his wife, Jean of the home; six children, Danny, Johnny, Jason, Anthony, Tara Hicks, and Judith Garza.

BIRDCREEK PHILLIPS

STIDHAM—Funeral services for Rev. Phillips were held Oct. 5 at Artussee Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Allison Phillips officiating and assisted by Rev. Kenneth Loma.

Birdcreek was born Nov. 26, 1930 to Daniel and Amanda (Hill) Phillips. He joined the Navy and served his country, and later became an ordained Preacher. Mr. Phillips loved fishing, OU football, and softball.



Phillips

Rev. Phillips is preceded in death by: his parents; one brother, Rev. Dan Phillips, Jr.; one sister, Mildred Ketcheshawno; and a great grandson, Chance Phillips.

Birdcreek is survived by: his wife, Eldean of the home; six children, James Phillips of Gulf Shores, Alabama, Benjamin and Georgie Phillips of Kotzebue, Alaska, Joe Phillips of Wichita, Kansas, Paul Phillips of Stidham and Deborah Deere of Eufaula; one brother, Frank Phillips; 17 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Interment was held at the Artussee Indian Baptist Church Cemetery.

BERTIE ALYINE RUSSELL

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Bertie Russell were held Sept. 17 at Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Sonny Brazwell officiating.

Bertie was born June 3, 1929 to Joe and Margaret (Polk) Compton. She was a member of the Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church.

Ms. Russell was preceded in death by: her parents; a twin sister, Betty Carson; one brother, Billy Compton, and a granddaughter.

Survivors included: one daughter, Cindy Russell of Hichita; four sons, Todd Russell of Hichita, Bret Russell of Okay, Kent Russell of Rose Valley, Missouri, and Mark Russell of Meridian, Kansas; one sister, Barbara Turnbull of Hichita; eleven grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

DONNA FAYE SATAWAKE

WELEETKA — Graveside services for Donna Satawake were held Oct. 7 at the Hillcrest Cemetery with Rev. Steve Gniech officiating.

Faye was born February 9, 1943 to

Warren and Louise (Barnett) Watson. She was employed in Pharoah at the Box Factory which later became the Sewing Factory.

Donna was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband, Bobby; and one sister, Barbara Gail Kelough.

Survivors include: two children, Roxanne Satawake and Tonya Southern, both of Tulsa; seven siblings, Jean Mead, Patricia Zismer and Loretta Dover, all of Weleetka, Jimmy Kelough of Oklahoma City, Tony, Eldon, and Cort, all of Weleetka; grandchildren, and a host of friends and relatives.

MARY BELL SCOTT

EUFULA — Funeral services for Mary Bell (Cook) Scott were held July 21 in the chapel of Gregg Funeral Home with Rev. Gary Hawkins officiating.

Mary was born August 7, 1918 to Thomas Sebastian Cook and Polly Yonder Cook.

Mary Bell married Jack Scott and together they owned Scott’s Garage in Eufaula. She loved looking after her family and taking care of her husband. Mary Bell was a member of the Eufaula VFW Ladies Auxilary Post 8798 and the First Baptist Church of Eufaula.

Mary was preceded in death by: her parents; two sisters, Fanny Mae Turner, and Stella May Byrd; two brothers, Woodrow and Jody Cook; one daughter, Josephine Brown and one grandson, Johnny Mack Brown.

Survivors include: one daughter, Mary Carol Scott-Shelton of Gatlinburg, TN; five grandchildren; eight great grandchildren and a host of other special friends and relatives.

Interment was held at the Greenwood Cemetery in Eufaula.

FLORENCE MARIE SPRINGER

MIAMI — Graveside services for Florence Springer were held at the Ottawa Indian Tribe Cemetery.

Mrs. Springer was born Oct. 8, 1921 to George and Jeanetta Barnett. She was a member of the St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church in Madisonville and worked as a lab tech for a number of years, an office nurse, as an accountant, and later, as a teacher.

Florence is preceded in death by: husband, Ben Springer.

Survivors included: two sons, Dan Townsend of Madisonville, and Kyle Springer of Wichita Falls, Texas; along with six grandsons and a host of friends and relatives.

MACK THOMAS

MOOREHEAD, MINN. — Services for Mack Thomas were held August 20 in Korsmo Funeral Chapel.

Mack was born April 8, 1938 to Lillian and Johnson Thomas, and worked as a heavyline equipment operator and became well known as an avid steel guitar player. Mack was the first Native American to be inducted into the Dakota Music Hall of Fame and an inventor of the Mosrite guitar.

Mack is preceded in death by his parents and one sibling, Katie.

He is survived by: his wife, Constance; five children, Deborah of Seattle, WA, Kim of Anchorage, AK, Johnson of San Clemente, CA, Shauna of Santa Ana, CA and Justin of Vancouver, WA; two brothers, Riley Thomas of Merrieto, CA, and John Thomas of Anaheim, CA; four sisters, Ramona Thomas of Riverside, CA, Kogie Thomas of Fullerton, CA, LaVona King of Anaheim, CA, and Virginia Thomas of Okmulgee; seven grandchildren; as well as, a host of friends and relatives.

CALVIN COOLIDGE WEST

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Calvin West were held Sept. 6 at Buckeye Indian Baptist Church.

West was born March 2, 1925 to George and Bessie West. He was a member of Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church and his hobbies included hunting and coaching.

Calvin was preceded in death by: his parents; his wife, Agnes (Fixico) West; two sisters, Winnie West and Lula Coon; one infant brother; and an infant great granddaughter.

He is survived by seven children, Parnell West of Spencer, Wanda and Katherine of the home, Harvey West of Spencer, Nancy West of Okemah, Carl West of Okmulgee, and Janelle West of Okemah.



West

GRATITUDE

We appreciate all those who were so supportive during Charlie’s illness and his subsequent death. Special thanks go to the Revs. June Thomas and Jerry Byrd, including the Creek Nation Honor Guards who did an excellent job honoring Charlie.

Again, for the many prayers, support, and condolences, we say Thanks.

**The Coker Family**

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HOT CORNER  
by  
JASON SALSMAN

Well, the time has finally arrived. The weather is starting to turn in a favorable direction. Gone are the days when you can hardly catch your breath outside because of the ferocious Oklahoma humidity. Leaves are falling, days are getting shorter; so long Summer, hello Fall! Not only is this season notorious for ushering in crisp autumn afternoons, it also signals the absolute best time of year to be a sports fan. Whether you are a fan of America's pasttime or not, you have to admit that the Major League Baseball playoffs have been full of excitement. The monotonous end of the season games that don't mean anything are long gone, it has been all-out focus and intensity as players compete for championship glory rather than fat paychecks. History is being made every night in baseball's second season. Chicago finally has a team in the World Series, and even though it isn't the Windy City's beloved Cubs, it's still nice to see the White Sox advance to the fall classic for the first time since the Eisenhower administration! Fans that hate the baseball big spenders have to be pleased that both the Yankees and Red Sox are sitting at home right now. The Houston Astros were one out, ONE STRIKE, away from advancing to the franchise's first championship appearance when a blast for the ages halted the celebration. St. Louis slugger Albert Pujols crushed a three run homer that still hasn't landed, and sent the series back home to the Gateway City. Pujols' homer has playoff legend written all over it and it left the stadium so fast it nearly broke the sound barrier! Time will tell if it ends up breaking Houston's heart.

Any way you slice it up this year's playoffs have not disappointed, complete with so much drama that day-time soaps are getting jealous! Truth is, baseball needs these playoffs right now. It gives the fans another chance to see the best the game has to offer. Before the season even started, they saw the worst as baseball was tarnished with steroid scandal when the truth finally came out and the U.S. government had to get involved. As the season progressed, things only got worse as a handful of players were suspended for steroids, including Rafael Palmeiro. Palmeiro's suspension was a blow to baseball because for all the fans knew he was an absolute role model; a first ballot Hall-of-Famer who played the game the right way and even harshly denied ever using steroids before Congress as a representative from baseball's player's union. But just like it did after the player strike, baseball's postseason has shown the ability to mend some fences and make things right again.

If you are not a baseball fan, however, certainly do not be dismayed. Football season in college and the NFL is just now heating up with conference play starting. In the college game, a few area teams that have been tripped up in the early going will have a chance to right the ship and salvage their seasons. In the NFL, it's 31 teams all trying to catch up to the New England Patriots and knock them off their championship pedestal. New England's stranglehold on the Vince Lombardi trophy has only tightened in the last couple years.

The NBA brings a franchise to our state as the New Orleans Hornets, displaced by the damage of Hurricane Katrina, will now be housed by Oklahoma City's Ford Center. The Hornets bring with them a renewed spirit and hopes for a fresh start, along with a lineup of young players hoping to give this team a youthful exuberance. It will be an exciting experience for Oklahomans who have thirsted for a professional sports team for a long time.

Yes, this is the perfect time to be a sports fanatic, you can basically kick back and plant yourself in front of the tube until late January. I just hope we as fans have enough excitement left over to get amped up about Thanksgiving dinner!

# King overcomes adversity for his love of the game

By Jason Salsman  
MNN Sports Reporter

BOSSIER CITY, LA — Few stories in the sports world inspire as much interest or appreciation from fans as a great comeback. In 2003, Jason White was coming back as the starting quarterback for the University of Oklahoma after two promising seasons had been cut short by knee injuries. In the face of criticism by several skeptics, all White did was go out and win the most prestigious award in college football, the Heisman Trophy, while leading his team to the national championship game. The media embraced the story and it quickly became the headline of the 2003 season.

“Things are really going good for me here,” he said.  
“I can see myself doing this for a long, long time.”

Images of Willis Reed coming out of the locker room after an injury to lead the New York Knicks to victory in a pivotal playoff game still flood the television screen. Sports fans love it when their heroes defy the odds when they are stacked against them.

Perserverance inspires people, it shows that determination can make common people do uncommon things.

Those principles cannot be any more evident than in the story of O.J. King. King's story is one that proves the power of never giving up even when the outlook seems pretty bleak.

It starts at Tahlequah Sequoyah High School, where King pitched for the Indians and pitched well. He also played football and basketball and could have played college ball in any of the three, but baseball was his passion and you could tell. He had a live arm, big league potential and a pitcher's savvy that is a necessity for anyone wanting to reach the next level. There was only one thing stopping King from realizing his dream of pitching in college. “None of the colleges were really looking

at me,” he said.

He did not let that detour his plans though, he just realized that if anything was going to happen that he would be the one to put the wheels in motion. “Nothing was handed to me,” King said. “I had to work for it, but in the end it helped me out and made me a better person to go through that.”

With that belief in mind, King put his head down and got to work, and eventually earned a spot on the pitching staff at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The folks at Northwestern State were definitely not disappointed in the pitcher, as he picked up the Southland conference Pitcher of the Year award in 2002 and was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in the Major League Baseball draft in that same year.

Things were going great for O.J. as he reported to spring training looking forward to contributing in any capacity, but he had a string of unfortunate injuries, including a partially torn ligament in his elbow that needed surgery. The injuries proved too much to overcome and King's playing career was cut short.

After he had to leave his playing days in the past, King wanted to do the same with the game he had once loved. He bounced around from odd job to odd job looking for a replacement to fill that void in his life.

“I didn't want anything to do with baseball anymore after I was hurt,” he recalled.

It's funny though how things have a way of coming full circle, and it was no different in O.J.'s story. He had stayed close with his pitching coach from college and they started

talking baseball. It was then that King realized that he did not hate the game so much after all. He felt that maybe he could be a part of the game in another way. It just so happened that his pitching coach knew another coach in Louisiana at Bossier Parish Community College in Bossier City that was looking for a pitching coach. They got together and O.J. accepted the position and has been there for about the last five months coaching.

“I love where I'm at, even if I can't play anymore it's given me a second chance to be a part of this game,” he said.

If history is any indication, King will be successful at his new job no matter the circumstances.

“I think through all of the adversity out of high school and dealing with the injuries, I have learned a lot about myself,” he said. “It teaches you to be a better person in the long run.”

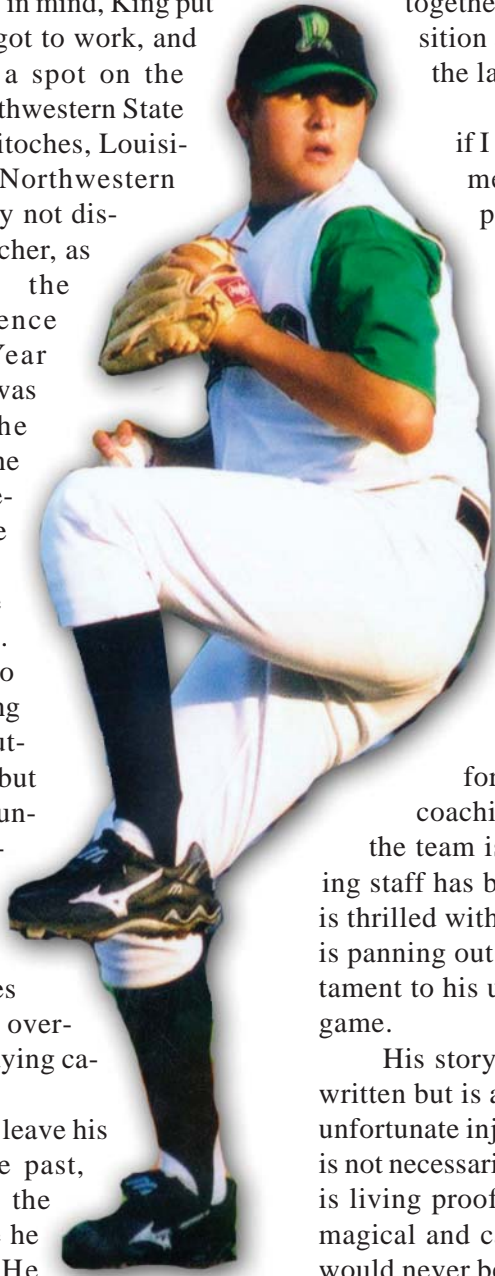
And the long run is just what King is shooting for. Although he has not been coaching at Bossier City for long, the team is doing great and the pitching staff has been a big reason why. King is thrilled with his job and how the season is panning out so far, and it really is a testament to his unwillingness to give up the game.

His story is one that continues to be written but is also one that gives hope. An unfortunate injury, or a missed opportunity is not necessarily the end of the world. King is living proof that inner fortitude can be magical and can create opportunities that would never be thought possible.

Now that he has found his way back to the game of baseball, do not expect him to take another hiatus anytime soon. He is having way too much fun to even consider that.

“Things are really going good for me here,” he said. “I can see myself doing this for a long, long time.”

Here's hoping that he does.



## Creek woman bowls over competition

OKMULGEE — Kathy Hamilton tried to give up on bowling, the game just wouldn't let her go.

She retired from the sport in 2003, ending a career that spanned over 30 years and included several appearances in national tournaments. During that time Hamilton carried an average of around 155. But all it took to get her back in action was a request for help from her old bowling team, “Inches Away.” “They called me and put out an S.O.S.,” she joked. Kathy was more than willing to help out and saw it as an opportunity to get

back involved in the game she had loved playing for so long. She accepted and competed with the team at nationals, which was held this past June in Tulsa.

Although the team did not fare as well as Hamilton had hoped in Tulsa, it was still fun for her to get back in the competition. And the team will have a shot at faring better in next year's national tournament that is slated to be held in the biggest little city in the world Reno, Nevada. In case you were wondering, Hamilton will be making the trip with the team. “I'm looking forward to next year

in Reno,” she said. “I guess now I'm officially out of retirement.”

Hamilton has always had an affinity for athletics. She credits her late mother's side of the family for that. “My mother's brothers were all great athletes, so I guess that is where I get my competitive nature,” she said.

Her love for bowling began at an early age, when she would go to the ally's with her aunt. She maintained a preference for the game while growing up and joined her first league after she was married and had moved to Miami, OK. From there, she moved to Tahlequah and joined the Cherokee Nation Bowling League where she honed her skills to near perfection.

Ask her about her favorite moment in her bowling career and she has an easy answer. “My mother got to see me bowl a 266, my best game ever,” she recalled. “Mom wanted to see what it would look like with X's (strikes) all the way across, I almost got to show her.”



Kathy Hamilton, right, is pictured with teammate Janice Dreadfulwater.

photo submitted

## OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

### Should steroids use in college and professional result in a lifetime ban?



today, it makes one wonder how so many

Isn't it interesting that really not more than twenty years ago, the word 'steroids' wasn't even a regular part of the english vocabulary. With so many modern athletes reaching for any edge they can get to be the 'ultimate' athlete

sports heroes performed so well so long ago without such needed drug induced assistance. In Rose's day, and years before him, there was only one major rule put on the walls of baseball offices, it read: “No betting on baseball games.” A stiff penalty was invoked, the same should be given for drug abuse in sports in this modern era.



tolerated. The fact that its merely cheating is

Steroid use should absolutely result in a lifetime ban in any sport, on any level. I still don't see why people do not get the picture here. Using steroids is blatantly cheating! There's no room in any sport for cheating, it simply can't be

really beside the point anyway, because people have died and will continue to die or be at health risk for using steroids. Steroid use is a loaded weapon, to allow people that use to come back with just a slap on the wrist would be a grave mistake. Pete Rose has been banned for life for gambling, but at least he wasn't endangering his life by doing so! Zero tolerance punishment is the only solution.





Satterfield creates artwork for Festival of Common Ground



Tulsa Casino Project: planned 276,600 sq. ft. facility for new Casino Resort



Taste-A-Plate at Okmulgee's Factory's Bar-B-Que



Section C, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

October 2005

Eighth Annual Red Fork Native American Film Festival

TULSA — Tulsa Community College (TCC), located at 7505 West 41st Street, will host the Eighth Annual Red Fork Native American Film Festival. On Thursday, November 17, Friday, November 18, and Saturday, November 19.

“Our goal is to promote and bring Native American films and documentaries that are not always seen here,” said Gerald Wofford, a member of the Red Fork Film Board.

A dinner will be served on Saturday evening following the last presentation. The dinner, as well as the presentations, is free and open to the public, although donations toward next year’s festival and a scholarship fund will be appreciated at the door. The festival is held in conjunction with the Tulsa Community College Native American Studies Program, Tulsa City-County Library, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department.

The schedule is as follows:

Nov. 17, 7 p.m., *Headrights* - Introduction by Director Sherwood Ball;  
Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m., *A Thousand Roads* and *Hank Williams First Nation*;  
Nov. 19, 3 p.m., *5th World*, *Dancing on the Edge*, *Two Winters*, and *Life-styles of the Rich and Infamous*; and  
7:30 p.m., *Sleepdance* - Introduction by Director Rod Pocowatchit. Dinner will be served after the movie.

Schedule is tentative to change, a special 15 minute film presentation about the career of Creek actor Will Sampson will also be shown throughout the schedule of the festival. This presentation was shown at the American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco.

The festival will be held inside the Student Activities Center on the West Campus of TCC. For more information about the festival, contact Gerald Wofford at (918) 732-7635 or log onto the Muscogee (Creek) Nation official website at: [www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov).

For directions, log onto the TCC web page at: [www.tulsacc.edu/](http://www.tulsacc.edu/) and look under site map and directions.

Hank Williams First Nation

*Hank Williams First Nation* is a charismatic and big-hearted slice of life, full of affection for its place and people (and country music too). In what the **Village Voice** calls the “best undistributed movie of 2004.” This is a film that gives an endearing look into the unique quirks and challenges surrounding the Woodland Cree First Nation.

Life goes on and nothing much happens in this community in the Peace River Country of Northern Alberta for the Fox family. However, the status quo is upset when one of the elders decides to question the death of legendary country singer Hank Williams. In search of proof that Williams is really dead, 75-year-old Martin Fox decides to head to Nashville to visit the grave of his longtime hero. He takes a Greyhound bus to Tennessee accompanied by his teenaged nephew.

As Martin’s family grapples with his impromptu chase, news of the trip catches the attention of American papers and finds its way back to the little community full of colorful characters. In this directorial debut of Calgary filmmaker Aaron James Sorensen and the first feature film to be shot in the Peace River region, the mainstream—often dysfunctional—image of aborigines is effectively countered. Instead, it offers a funny and sincere look at family, traditions and values and ultimately what one generation can learn from another.

*Hank Williams First Nation* received Best Music in a Feature Film Award at Nashville Film Festival in 2005.



November 17 - 19

TCC West Campus - 7505 West 41st Street

Red Fork Film Previews

*Headrights*: Filmmaker Sherwood Ball will introduce his film that tells the story of the mysterious Osage murders over property and oil rights at the turn of the century. Running Time — 90 mins.

*A Thousand Roads*: The Lives of four Native Americans take significant turns as they confront the crises that arise in a single day. Running Time — 40 mins.

*Hank Williams First Nation*: A remote Cree community is shaken when seventy-five-year-old Martin abruptly decides that he must visit the grave of his long time hero, Hank Williams. Running Time — 100 mins.

*5th World*: Andrei and Aria are young Navajos hitchhiking their way back home across the rez. Along the way they reconnect with their heritage and culture and the beautiful landscape of the American Southwest. Running Time — 75 mins.

*Dancing on the Edge*: A Jicarilla Apache Chief of Police must keep the law on his tribe's reservation while also dealing with prejudice and the death of his Father. Running Time — 43 mins.

*Two Winters*: The Tutchone people of the Yukon tell of the year when winter lasted almost two years. This imaginative animated half hour special is inspired by a true story. Running Time — 30 mins.

*Life-styles of the Rich and Infamous*: This film deals with the conflict between two Native American people trying to define the authentic portrayal of Natives. The questions address the perceived image of Natives from non-Natives and Natives alike. Running Time — 16 mins.

*Sleepdancer*: A Native American family and their friends must deal with love, loss, and sometimes honest truths we don't want to face, but must in order to thrive. Running Time — 92 mins.



At the Movies with Josh Slane

The movie *Serenity* has been hotly awaited by both *Firefly* fans and sci-fi fans in general as one of the movies that might take the genre to a new level. It did not disappoint. With witty and well written dialogue and plenty of action, this movie is a pleasure to watch. *Firefly* fans get a closing on the TV show they love, and people unfamiliar with *Firefly* get enough information so that they can follow the story without becoming lost.

The only downside to *Serenity*, is that it seems to have been written more as an excellent last episode, as opposed to a movie directly meant for the big screen. However, if you’re a science fiction fan, *Serenity* is definitely a movie to



check out. *Serenity* is rated PG-13 for some sequences of intense violence and for sexual references. Directed by Joss Whedon, who also made other productions possible such as: *Buffy the Vampire Slayer-Chaos Bleeds*, *Atlantis: The Lost Empire*, *Titan A.E*, *Angel*, and *Alien Resurrection*.

Movie Rating: 3 out of 4 stars.





**Ted Isham**  
**Creek Council House Museum Curator**

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum, once the seat of government for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, is now engaged in promotion and encouragement of the Arts through the Culture of our ancestors. The Muscogee People come from a deep and rich tradition filled past. For many hundreds of years before the Europeans came to our shores, the Muscogee people have been at the epicenter of a vast realm of what archaeologists have called the mound builder culture. All throughout the Mississippi River Valley and spread across the entire Southeast of what is now called United States, earth works of great proportions have dotted the land. These immense mounds were built not by forced labor, as many academics once would have us believe, but built by a populous that was intimately engaged in the creation of sacred spaces and places. Deep spiritual beliefs associated with the sacred spaces were expressed in the vast amount of energy and resources expended in the building of these mounds. The iconography that was produced for those spaces rivals that of much of the Ancient World and even the Ancient Mesoamerican world. The hauntingly beautiful images produced, even in the everyday utensils, suggests a total belief in the other-worldliness of nature and the supernatural. This richness of iconic imagery suggests that there was a class of artisans who produced these images according to a traditional history.

Today we do not know what many of the images mean but they are not unfamiliar to us. We see hints of our past glory in the oral traditions, stories and legends of our elder culture bearers. The fact that, even today, we still have even a tenuous grasp on this rich past is a testament to our tenacity as a group or tribe to maintain who we are, *Este Mvskokvlke*. Just think of all of the lost information that occurred because of the decimation of many of our people including many of our culture bearers, from disease brought to us by the contacts with the Europeans. Consider the vast amount of pressures from these invaders who coveted something that was incomprehensible to the aboriginal people of the Southeast, the ownership of our Mother Earth.

The continual pressure from this alien concept brought about much strife and turmoil among our ancestors. This culminated in the Removal Act of 1830, which tore the indigenous peoples of the Southeast away from their ancient homelands. This had to have devastating effects on the remaining culture bearers of the tribes. The erosion of the cultural knowledge base of the Muscogee people, among others, was accelerated in the forced assimilation into the now larger European society. Many of our old ways and beliefs did not fit into this new order of life and consequently we were forced into retreat and seclusion. This caused many more traditions and knowledge to be lost forever. The advent of the television did much more to bring about the depletion of our remaining tradition bearers, including the native language speakers, where much tradition still resides.

Today there is seen among many groups and individuals a strong sense of rediscovery. A rediscovery of who we are, where we come from, and a need to reconnect to our ancestors, is now seen across many of the Creek communities. It is in this light that the Creek Council House Museum (CCHM) has taken the challenge to help reintroduce to new generations their culture and knowledge, much of which is in the process of being lost.

Today, the CCHM is engaged in hosting and promoting classes to help bring about the revitalization of many of the traditions and culture of the *Este Mvskokvlke*. This is seen in the mission statement of the CCHM. In it, it states the purpose of the Creek Council House Museum Association is to collect, preserve and interpret the cultures of the Native American peoples with emphasis on the cultures represented by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; to encourage research and education of the cultures of the Native American peoples with emphasis on the cultures represented by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; to operate a museum to further these purposes; and to promote the integrity of the Creek Council House building.

This mission is carried out by the many programs and classes that encourage transgenerational learning, which is the passing of knowledge from generation to generation. This is seen in the types of programs that the CCHM hosts such as the Creek Council House Arts Program. Offering classes in; Traditional Finger weaving; Traditional Pottery methods; Traditional Basket weaving, Story-telling and Creek Language instruction are a part of the culture of the *Mvskoke* people. The Creek Council House Museum Arts Program focuses on the oral tradition of the people originally of the Southeastern United States, which include the Muscogee (Creek) people. These are the people and culture that the Creek Council House Museum has as its emphasis.

The Arts program shows how cultural knowledge is passed on from generation to generation. A basic tenet of this tradition is demonstrated as part of each of the classes. Hands-on instruction is given to each participant emphasizing the positive transfer of knowledge. It is hoped that the students will gain an appreciation of this method of instruction and be able to capture the ‘essence’ of the art being taught.

There are two sections of this Arts Program, with the first part focusing on training teachers to pass on the traditional arts to others. Almost concur-

rently the second part of this Arts Program focuses on a program of arts instruction geared towards children.

It is hoped that by continually offering these classes and by using the newly trained teachers to share what they have learned, the *Mvskokvlke* will be able to reclaim the arts and skills they were known for long ago. Thus, keeping alive the memories and ways of the elders. It was during a search to find teachers for classes on traditional Muscogee (Creek) arts we discovered that there were very few if any instructors available. The only traditional Muscogee basket weaver we could locate was in her nineties and no longer physically able to gather the materials. This shifted our emphasis to training teachers: not only to have a pool of instructors to be able to draw from for future classes, but also to keep the traditional arts alive. This finding was the basis of all of the following projects at the CCHM. The fact that there are no physically able teachers in sufficient numbers to continually conduct classes caused the CCHM to begin the classes that would be training teachers to pass that knowledge along to others.

Strengthening the knowledge base and pool of teachers allows for many more children access to classes in these very endangered traditions. To be able to support the newly instituted corps of teachers there needs to be a community mandate to help support these teachers in their endeavors. It is with these two objectives in mind that the CCHM is actively engaged in organizing an Arts Colony and ultimately an Arts Council, which will nurture and enhance our rich traditions. The future of the *Este Mvskokvlke* depends on our children, as they will inherit the knowledge and culture that we are able to leave with them. It is imperative that we do what we can to insure our children’s place as *Este Mvskokvlke*.

*Mvtekosan makaranis ce!*



## Creek Woman shares beadwork talent

OKMULGEE — Creek citizen and full blood Creek, Margie Chalakee, loves making beadwork. “I am self taught and I love doing the loom stitch, peyote stitch and the brick stitch. I have taken orders for my beadwork and I

also display my art to purchase at the Elders Gift Shop inside the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex,” said Chalakee.

Margie was born in Okmulgee and currently resides there today.

She enjoys beadwork and loves putting the Creek culture into her design work. “I enjoy the hobby and at the same time can make a little extra money to

make it from paycheck to paycheck. I am a single mother and also have one grand child who resides in Henryetta.” Chalakee added.

Chalakee makes O.U. dreamcatchers as well as keychains and other items. One of her latest beadwork items are beaded flower pots. Among her many items are hair accessories, visors and jewelry. To contact Margie regarding her beadwork call (918) 756-6035.



## Traditional Dress by Betsy Taryole

HENRYETTA — Betsy Taryole is an “expert” ribbon dress maker and other traditional clothing as well. Taryole was raised and resides currently in Henryetta. “I have lived here in Henryetta since 1969. I have worked for Henryetta Public Schools and attended Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah and learned the basics of sewing in home economics classes, we were required to learn how to cook, sew and house keeping. I have been sewing since I learned how. I just like to sew as a hobby and I do sew occasionally for others when time permits.” said Betsy Taryole, Creek citizen. “I have previously made pageant dresses for the five and six year olds during Creek Nation Pageant events. I have made two or three skirts and children size ribbon shirts



for the gift shop within the Creek Nation Complex Gift Shop as well. I do a little of everything from cooking Indian dishes to lye soap making, but my favorite hobby is sewing!”

If you would like to contact Betsy Taryole about her traditional clothing making you can contact her at (918) 652-8231.



## Satterfield creates artwork for Festival of the Common Ground

OKMULGEE — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation well-known artist, Robert Satterfield, was selected to create the art work for the First Annual Festival of the Common Ground.

Satterfield has produced artwork for the tribe and the public for the past 12 years. One of his latest pieces is on the front of the Festival of the Common Ground program.

“I was approached by a member of the staff in charge of marketing and advertising, Johnna Wilcoxson who knew of my existence as an artist. I was more than happy to do this because it’s been a while since I’ve done a public showing and I’ve been gearing up for a show anywhere,” Said Creek artist Robert Satterfield “The festival seems to be getting off to a great start and a good location just right off of I-40. I’ve already been there to scout it out, there is so much shade and the lodge is located right on the little lake, it’s a great place in the country which is just down my alley. I’ll be right at home” he adds. “I’m happy to get to meet Mr. Michael Martin Murphey. It’s going to be another highlight in my art career. The staff of the Festival of the Common Ground has been so nice to work with and they have lifted my spirits.”



Robert comes from a full-blood Creek family from Hanna, Oklahoma. “While growing up in the country, my love of wildlife was translated into art. I am the fourth child of 11 children and I remember one of my drawings paying the electric bill.”

Robert is a self-taught artist who enjoys using acrylics, pens and ink. He has enjoyed learning how to market his work and has been selling his works for ten years. He has donated some of his works to several children’s organizations, including Jr. High and High Schools and Headstarts. His first professional show was held at Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, where he sold seven of the eleven pieces on display.

As a Wildland Fire Fighter in the National Parks and Forests, Robert absorbed many wildlife experiences. He found the mountains and ridges of the forest inspiring and was encouraged to use them as images in his art. He often did art pieces for his fire fighting crews during rest periods.

Robert is currently a resident of Okmulgee, Oklahoma where is employed by the Creek Nation Casino. He can be reached for further information about his art at (918) 759-6913.



Artwork for the Festival of the Common Ground by Robert Satterfield.





# TulsaPromotions

### \$200,000 Mystery Cash Fall Bash

As the jackpots continue to grow, so does the amount of money that you have a chance to walk away with. Mystery Cash Fall Bash is going out with a bang with not one, but three Grand Prize Drawing days. On November 23 – 25 Grand Prize Drawings will be held with an additional \$3,000 being added to each jackpot at 10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm, 7 pm, and 10 pm. Half hour cash drawings for \$100 will occur between 10:30 am and 10:30 pm on all three Grand Prize Drawing days. Also, on November 25, an additional \$500 will be added to the half hour drawings at 11:30 am, 2:30 pm, 5:30 pm, 8:30 pm, and 10:30 pm. All jackpots must go on November 25!

Daily drawings will continue Monday through Thursday at 10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm, 7 pm, and 10 pm. At the time of each drawing a prize amount of either \$100, \$200, \$300, \$400, or \$500 in cash will be drawn to determine the amount of the drawing, including any unclaimed jackpot money from the previous drawing. If no one claims a daily jackpot after three minutes, the amount drawn will roll over to that time slot the following drawing day and will continue to grow.

### Daily River Showdown

Daily at 9 am  
So you think your poker skills are the best in town? Here's your chance to prove it by entering the Daily River Showdown No

Limit Texas Hold'em Tournament. This tournament occurs daily at 9 am and is open to all players. The buy-in is only \$20 with a \$5 entry fee and \$5 for dealer's appreciation. The winner of this tournament will receive a majority of the total buy-in from all players, depending on the amount of players who sign up for the tournament. Prizes for other places will be determined at the time of each tournament.

### The Big One Men's Night Poker Tournament

The Big One is the no limit Texas Hold'em tournament for those serious guys out there. Men, don't miss your chance at winning big by playing in this \$100 buy-in poker tournament. Registration will begin at 6:30 every Wednesday night, and the tournament will begin at 7 pm. Prize payouts will be determined at the time of each tournament, depending on the amount of the players in the tournament.

### Ladies Texas Hold'em Tournament

Ladies, we know you want to play some poker too. Come and check out our Ladies No Limit Texas Hold'em Tournaments starting Monday nights at 7 pm! Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to all ladies of any skill level, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00. Prize payouts will vary depending on the number of entrants in the tournament.

### Paydays of Spades

Paydays of Spades is here to stay, and is now offered 24 hours a day, seven days a week! Any player receiving a suited spades Blackjack will receive a payout of 3:1 of the original bet up to \$100, with the minimum payout being \$25. This also benefits other players at the table as well with our now famous Envy Bonus. Each player at the table who is actively betting will be awarded a bonus matching his or her original bet, up to \$25.

Other great bonuses include: 6-7-8 of Spades - \$1,000; 7-7-7 of Spades - \$1,000; and a 5 Card Charlie that includes three spades - \$50

### What More Could a Guy Ask For?

On November 30, one lucky guy will receive just what he's been asking for as we give away a brand new 2006 Hummer H3. The finale of "What More Could a Guy Ask For?" is quickly approaching, and at the end of this month, one guy's dream will become a reality. Men, you can start swiping your cards at the Players Club at 6 pm on Wednesday nights. Between 7 pm and 10 pm, drawings will be held every half hour with prizes totaling \$2,500. At 10 pm, we will pick two lucky winners to receive \$500 plus a key that could start the Hummer H3 on November 30. Guys, don't miss your chance to win over \$60,000 in cash and prizes on Wednesdays!

### Queen of the Machines

Ladies, you still have a shot at a relaxing vacation in tropical Cancun! Swipe your cards starting at 6 pm every Monday, because at 7 pm, 50 ladies will be drawn to compete in our \$10 match play tournament. The tournament will be made up of five rounds of ten players, with each round lasting one minute. Players will receive all credits remaining on their machine at the end of the round. The winner of each round will receive \$20 in cash to play in the final round of the night totaling \$2,500 in cash prizes. The winner of each week's tournament will win a seat in our Bring Back Tournament on December 5 to compete for a trip for two to Cancun!

Weekly Cash Prizes are: \$1,000 for first place, \$750 for second place, \$400 for third place, \$250 for fourth place, and \$100 for fifth place.

### Tuesday Team Tournament

Team up to win big with our exciting Team Tournaments every Tuesday afternoon! Swipe your Players Club card beginning at 1 pm to qualify for our \$5 free play tournament. At 2 pm, 24 lucky players will be matched up to play in our Team Tournament. Team members will play one minute rounds on our Triple Joker machines. Each player will keep all individual credits won and the winning duo each week will walk away with the grand prize of \$1,000 in cash (\$500 for each team member).



## HOW MANY?

The Tulsa Creek Nation Casino's booth at the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association Convention in Tulsa earlier this month featured a unique giveaway. This glass chest, pictured left, held an undisclosed dollar amount of chips. The lucky winner of the chips had to guess the closest to the actual amount without going over.

photo by Gerald Wofford

## Tulsa Casino Project

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Nevada Gold Tulsa, Inc. is collaborating with Cuningham Group Architecture, P.A. on the design of a new casino resort in Tulsa that will incorporate elements of the Tribe's history and culture. The planned 276,600 square foot facility will include three restaurants, two lounges, retail shop, and a 100,000 square foot gaming floor featuring 3,300 slots. An 800-car parking facility will be constructed beneath the facility.

Currently Cuningham Group's architectural team is refining the floor plans with input from the team's interior designers. The character of the resort is also taking shape as the exterior design of critical areas are being further developed. This development includes identifying recommended materials for exterior finishes with the assistance of suppliers.

Of particular importance is Cuningham Group's coordinating with all consultants in preparation for the upcoming bid package #1 that is currently scheduled to be issued October 25. Given the Project's size and complexity, proper coordination is critical to the success of the project. The coordination includes establishing floor-to-floor elevators that work for all building systems, establishing final column locations and perimeter wall locations so that the structural engineer can set foundation configurations for this first bid package. Coordination with the traffic consultant to plan for efficient traffic flow through the site, determination of site illumination with the lighting signage design with the signage consultant are also taking place at this time. In addition, as the Tribe wants to preserve as much native vegetation as possible on the site, Cuningham Group is working closely with the project's landscape architect to accomplish this goal. All of these efforts affect the

schematic level pricing for the Project and Cuningham Group is in close contact with the project's costing consultant to obtain updated numbers.

Cuningham Group is also responsible for the interior design of the resort. The interiors team is currently defining the feature area and layouts for grill, lounge, cafe, buffet, snack bar, and coordinating with the food service consultant to implement program requirements into the documents. They are also conceptualizing the secondary spaces (i.e., bus lounge, restrooms, etc.) and researching ceiling materials and finish systems for gaming floor.

Design of the resorts underground sanitary and storm system is well underway by the project's engineer, GRG as are the piping infrastructure designs of these systems throughout the parking

garage and casino level. The entire facility has been inputted into an energy modeling program to confirm the facilities energy use. GRG has also been working with the manufacturer of the proposed 100% outdoor air and heat recovery units for the casino in order to optimize their configuration and size.

## HARDING BAIL BONDS



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FACTORY'SBAR-B-QUE  
Established 1946

By Gerald Wofford  
MNN Writer  
No one can say that the city of Okmulgee, Oklahoma isn't an historic one. In fact, probably just west of the Mississippi, it would be difficult to find a city the size and population of Okmulgee with it's past connections to cultures, traditions, music, and art all rolled into one.

But maybe we are forgetting one important facet of that historic line-food!  
A person can go search the nation, the back streets of Kansas City, Chicago, or Memphis, to name a few and probably would not discover the gem of a barbecue that is available here.

For those with a 'doubty Thomas' mentality, and must see, or taste, to believe. All they have to do is go by Factory's Barbecue located at 419 North Wood Drive.

Since 1946, this family owned Barbecue restaurant has been serving it up good, and I mean good!

How Factory's finally settled in Okmulgee is a story in itself. Ray and Barbara Factor own the brick building which is practically right off U.S. Highway 75. It was Ray's Grandfather and Grandmother, Oscar and Reba, that began the business in McAlester, Oklahoma.

Ray can truly boast that he comes from a long line of barbecue pedigree. Not only did his paternal grandfather and mother delve and succeed in the business of smoked meat, but Ray's Grandfather on his Mother's side, Jess Johnson, also was a pretty good meat connoisseur himself. In fact, Ray boasts that Jess was asked to prepare some barbecue for then presidential candidate Calvin Coolidge in the 1920's. "He would really make good barbecue," says Ray," he could also make some good moonshine too," he laughs.

When Ray was a child, his family moved to California for a while, but Ray had already made up his young mind that he liked the hills and people of Oklahoma just a little bit better. Eventually the family did move back to Oklahoma. As Ray became a man, he chose a military career in the Army and saw combat duty in Vietnam in the 60's . Ray retired from the military at the rank of Major in 1992, but even then Barbecue and the family business, was already calling Ray's name, and the popular food would not be denied as seen by popular demand.

Also, the administration of day-to-day business wasn't nothing new to Ray, or to Reba. Reba's family had also owned Lyon's grocery store in Okmulgee.

Eventually the couple would see the original barbecue hot spot in McAlester close, but by now, the dream would not be kept secret. Ray and Reba decided to make Okmulgee their new home for the spicy succulent meat.

To even add to the new home, they decided to add a 'y' to their business sign, giving them the official name everyone sees when cruising 75.

The dining area is quaint and cozy, and usually some good Motown hits can be heard over the sound system. A person can actually watch the world go by as big glass windows allow customers to view out of state automobiles, locals, and big rigs going to their destination.

Word of mouth has also helped spread the news about just how good Factory's Bar-

Taste-A-Plate for Four



Ray and Barbara Factor pose behind a Taste-A-Plate for Four dish. The eating establishment is located in a brick building which is practically right off U.S. Highway 75.

photo by Gerald Wofford

becue is. The red brick house building has garnered a regional reputation and has even catered to athletes such as Kansas City Chief running back Priest Holmes, former San Antonio Spurs Shawn Elliott, and martial arts expert Dale 'Apollo' Cook.

You owe it to yourself to try Factory's Bar-B-Que, operation hours are: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Taste-A-Plate Review  
by Jason Salsman

Growing up in Oklahoma all my life I have had the opportunity to develop a love for good barbecue. It is kind of a right of passage in our state to treat ourselves to smoked meats, potato salad and barbecue beans. My love for this style of cooking has led me to some of the better establishments in our state.

I've had the pleasure of eating all you can eat ribs on Friday nights at Muskogee's My Place Barbecue. I've sampled the mouth watering sliced brisket at Bob's Barbecue in Norman. JL's, located just outside of Pryor, boasts some of the best ribs around. A stretch out of Sallisaw sits Wild Horse Mountain barbecue, where the food is so tasty that

you forget about the less than spotless surroundings. I've had it all, and recently I added Factory's Bar-B-Que in Okmulgee to that distinguished list.

If you are a fan of old throwback barbecue food and setting then this is your destination. Upon arrival, you get the feeling that this is a place that your grandfather would prefer over a black-tie restaurant any day of the week. Pictures of years past cover the walls, reminding those that dine of the type of service that they will be receiving. My colleagues and I decided we wanted to sample a bit of everything, so we decided on the Taste-A-Plate. The Taste-A-Plate is a great idea for a party of four as it comes with four meats, three sides and bread and it all goes for around \$25. The ribs had to be treated with care, picking them up too fast will result in the meat dropping right off the bone, they were delicious.

Next, I tried the hot links and being that they are my favorite I will say that Factory's for sure has some of the best hot links I've ate. They have a pretty good amount of heat to them,

but are enriched with flavor. The chopped beef was juicy and cooked to perfection, it was perfectly matched with the sweet and tangy mild barbecue sauce. The smoked bologna was thick cut and full of flavor, and I found that it paired the best with the spicy hot sauce. The sides did not disappoint either, with good potato salad, beans and potato wedges all spread across the table. As if that was not enough our gracious waitress enticed us into trying some of the homemade pies. My chocolate pie was absolutely outstanding and I heard no complaints about the coconut cream or lemon meringue either. When we were done with our food, I have to admit it was a struggle to get up from our chairs; you will not walk away from this place hungry.

From someone who knows good barbecue, Factory's knows how to cook it. There was not a single dish in my estimation that was less than spectacular. For anyone wanting to give this restaurant a shot, I'll recommend it with two thumbs up.

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Creek Council House says "thank you for coming" here to Tulsa Indian Territory

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